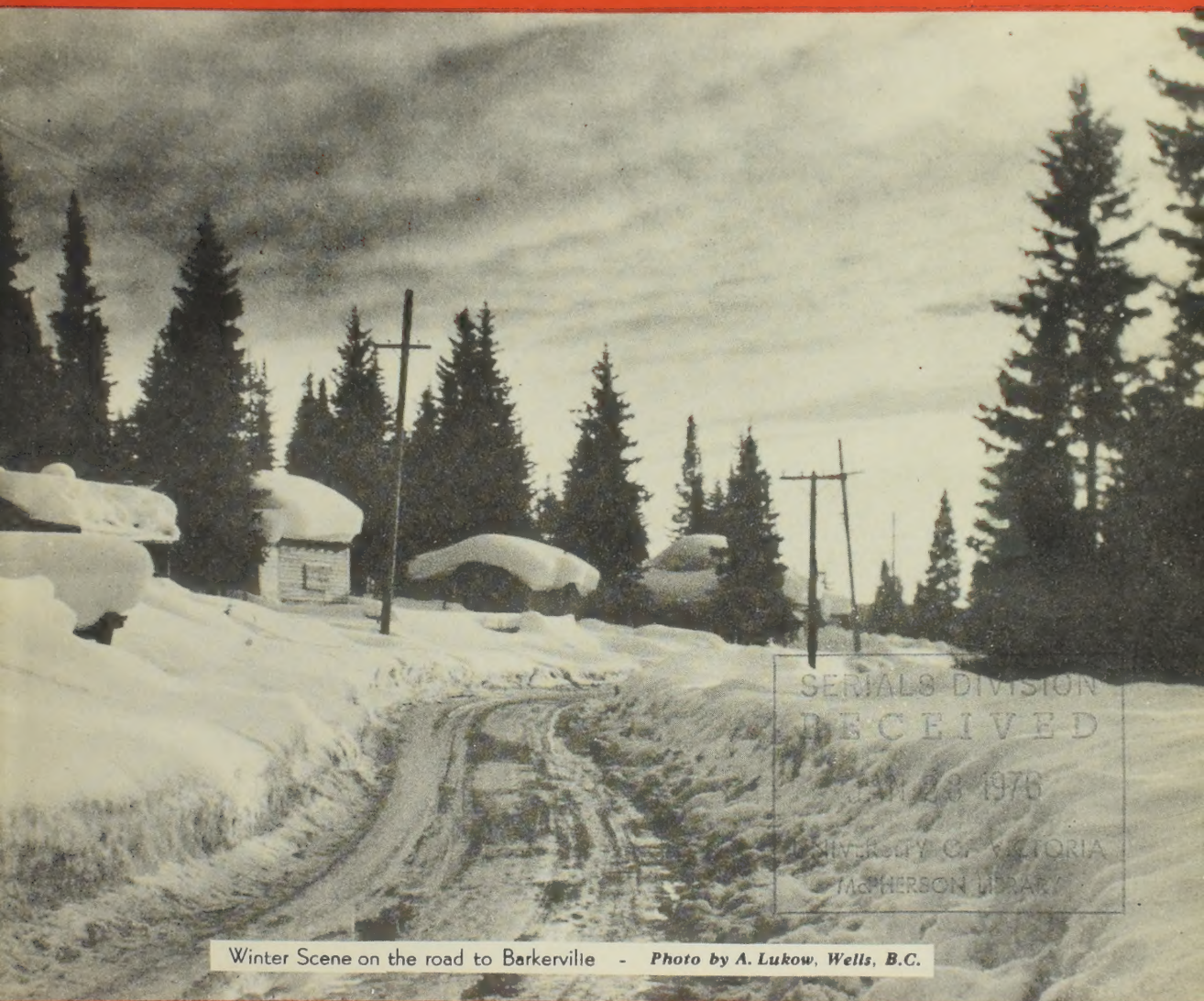


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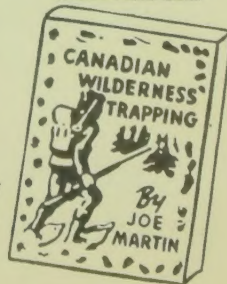
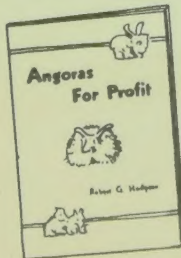
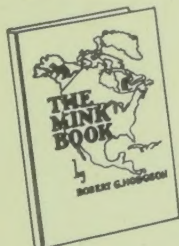
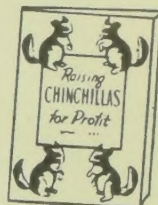
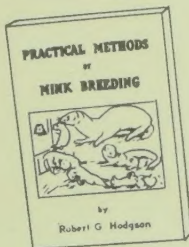
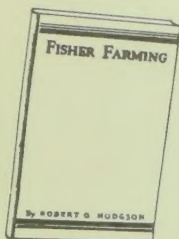
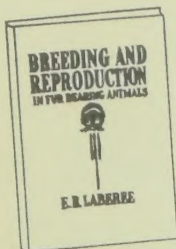
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Winter Scene on the road to Barkerville - Photo by A. Lukow, Wells, B.C.

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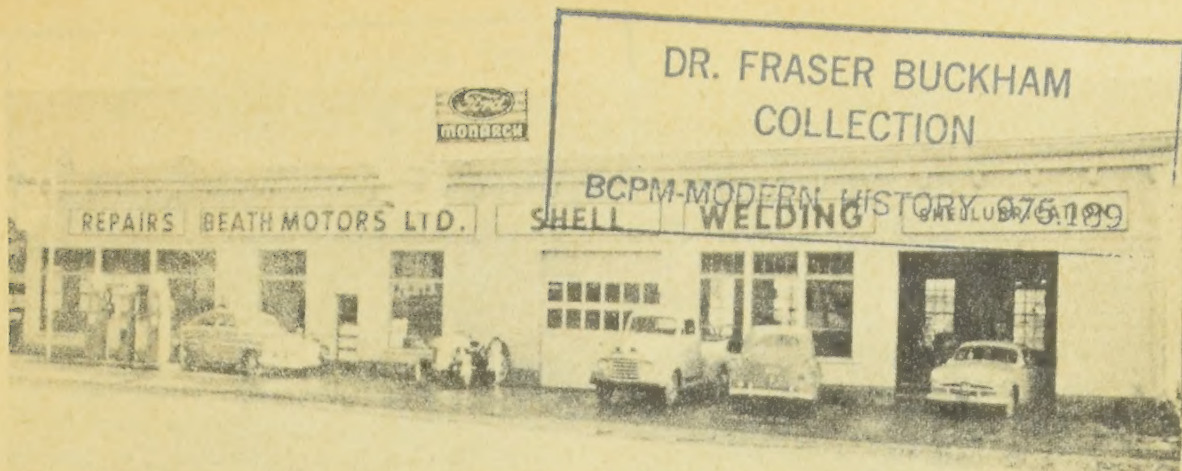
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DR. FRASER BUCKHAM

Editorial COLLECTION

BCPM TOWARDS A MORE ABUNDANT LIFE - OR ?
MODERN HISTORY 189

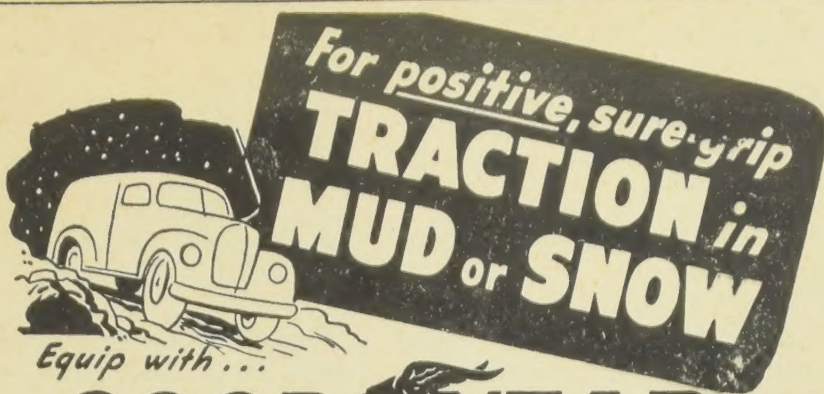
In 1793 Sir Alexander MacKenzie made his way through the Peace Pass, and then went onward to catch his first glimpse of the Pacific at Bella Coola. A swift about face and a retracing of his steps back through the Peace Pass of the Rockies and he was gone. It was white man's first overland journey to the Pacific; his first glimpse of the hinterland of our present British Columbia. For seventy years the land was virtually forgotten; nought came of his visit except the establishment of a few scattered fur trading posts. And then came the Cariboo Gold Rush of the 1860's which was responsible for the first great influx of people into the interior regions of B.C. Thousands came, and in a short time, as the riches were exhausted, thousands went - on to other newly discovered goldfields; the Omineca; the Klondyke, Alaska. A few stayed behind - to till the soil, ranch, trap or engage in other pioneering pursuits.

For nearly fifty years this land was again virtually forgotten. Then, just prior to the last war, came the great railroading and land-grabbing era, which ended with the construction of the P.G.E. as far as Quesnel; the C.N.R. to Prince Rupert, and the N.A.R. into Peace River. Following this the country remained in the doldrums for another 25 years - her vast resources, if not unknown, certainly unwanted by the rest of North America. The last war, with its threat of invasion from the North Pacific gave us the Alaska and Skeena Highways, and scores of military bases and airfields throughout the north.

Each of these periods of feverish activity and great temporary influxes of people was but a 'flash in the pan' which hindered the country as much as it helped, for there was little steady, progressive development between flashes; that is, little to look forward to in the foreseeable future.....until the year 1949

The year just ending has witnessed the resumption of work on pushing P.G.E. rails northward; the paving of fifty miles of our highway into the north, and the rebuilding of seventy more; additional work on the highway into the Peace River; the 24 hour per day construction of a celanese plant at Prince Rupert; the preliminary survey work towards construction of a hydro plant on the Quesnel River; the spending of a million dollars on

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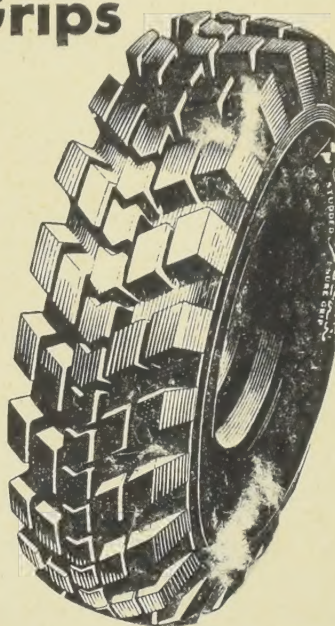


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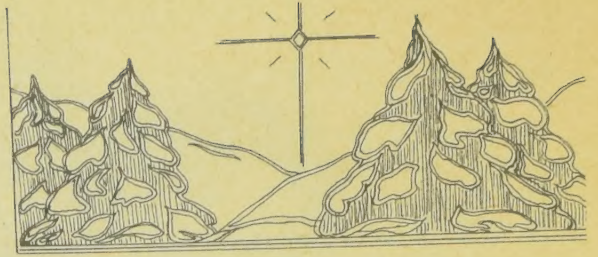
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"Christmas Trees"

by H.B. BINNEY



"Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight!
Christmas in lands of the fir-tree and pine,
Christmas in lands of the palm-tree and vine;
Christmas where snow-peaks stand solemn and
white,
Christmas where corn-fields lie sunny and
bright."

Phillips Brooks: "A Christmas Carol."

TWO years ago there was an article in the "Cariboo Digest" entitled "The Trees of Yule." This dealt with a variety of pleasing fantasies about the origin of the Christmas Tree and unfolded several other quaint legends in which the Seasons and the Trees figured importantly. This year, while a very brief recapitulation of the stories of 1947 might be in order, let us look more attentively at the practical side of the subject.

Some say the Christmas Tree originated twelve centuries ago when St. Boniface, an English missionary in Germany, hewed down a sacrificial oak and saw beyond it a young fir, green, unstained with blood and symbolic of the new Faith. By others it is held that the Christmas Tree commemorates the miraculous transformation of Nature when trees blossomed in the midst of ice and snow at the Nativity. Yet again the story tells of how the Holy Child Himself set a fir branch in the earth and this rooted and grew as did Aaron's Rod and the Thorn of Glastonbury. This tree bore fruit always at Christmas and brought abundance to those who befriended the needy.

Then there are those who ascribe the introduction of the Christmas Tree to the great Reformer, Martin Luther, although its establishment as a definite custom does not appear until 1605 in Germany. It was adopted by Finland by 1800, in Denmark and Norway by 1830 and in Sweden by 1860. With some perceiving a connection between the Christmas Tree and the "Tree of Life," the former was first set up at Penshanger in England in 1829 and truly naturalized two years later under the sponsorship of the Prince Consort.

Nowadays, the growing and export of Christmas Trees is a considerable industry in Canada. Douglas Fir from the West and Balsam and Spruce from the East are specially prized, six million trees being exported and one million used at home in 1939. Exports, chiefly to the U.S.A., passed the million mark in British Columbia in 1937 and rose almost to two million, with a value of \$270,863.00, in the course of the next six years. Further it is estimated that at least twenty-one million trees are required annually in North America and, as Canada is the best place to grow them, indications are that the market for Canadian trees can and will be considerably enhanced. Past performances bear this out: close to four million trees went from Canada to the States in 1942 but the figure was over seven million in 1946.

The Douglas Fir is the Christmas Tree of the West, the Canadian Balsam the favorite of the East. England favors Norway Spruce almost exclusively. Quite a wide variety of species are utilized in the United States with pure and mixed plantations of all to be found in one district or another. These species include Douglas Fir, Canadian Balsam, Norway Spruce, Concolor Fir, Red Pine, Scotch Pine, Austrian Pine, White Pine, Colorado Spruce and White Spruce. Hemlocks and Cedars find occasional use.

Seeing that the Douglas Fir is the forest monarch of the North-west as well as an excellent Christmas Tree, let us consider it now in the latter role. Its good points are well enough recognized for it to have been imported for Christmas Tree plantation to several Eastern States including New York and Pennsylvania. America's "The Nations' Christmas Tree," however, is a California Bigtree in Kings Canyon National Park, second only to the "General Sherman," the world's largest living thing. As the "Nation's Christmas Tree" has a circumference of 107.6 feet and a height of 267 feet, it might prove a trifle bulky in the parlor,

But, to return to the Douglas Fir, the mountain variety, known sometimes as Blue Douglas Fir and very common throughout the Interior, makes the best Christmas Tree. It is generally

more bushy than the Coast tree and, consequently, gives a better appearance. Additionally, it holds its needles well under adverse conditions as do the Balsams and the Scotch Pine. The other Pines also have good needle retention but, with the possible exception of the Norway, the Spruces are poor in this respect.

Douglas Fir handles well during transportation, a characteristic shared by the Balsams and Spruces but not by the Pines. Of all types of Christmas Tree it probably calls for the least amount of plantation care in the form of pruning and shearing. Rapid growing trees, such as the Red Pine and the Norway Spruce, require considerable cutting back to prevent a spindly appearance. Not only does the Douglas Fir avoid excessive terminal growth but it substitutes excellent laterals which give it a pleasing, compact look.

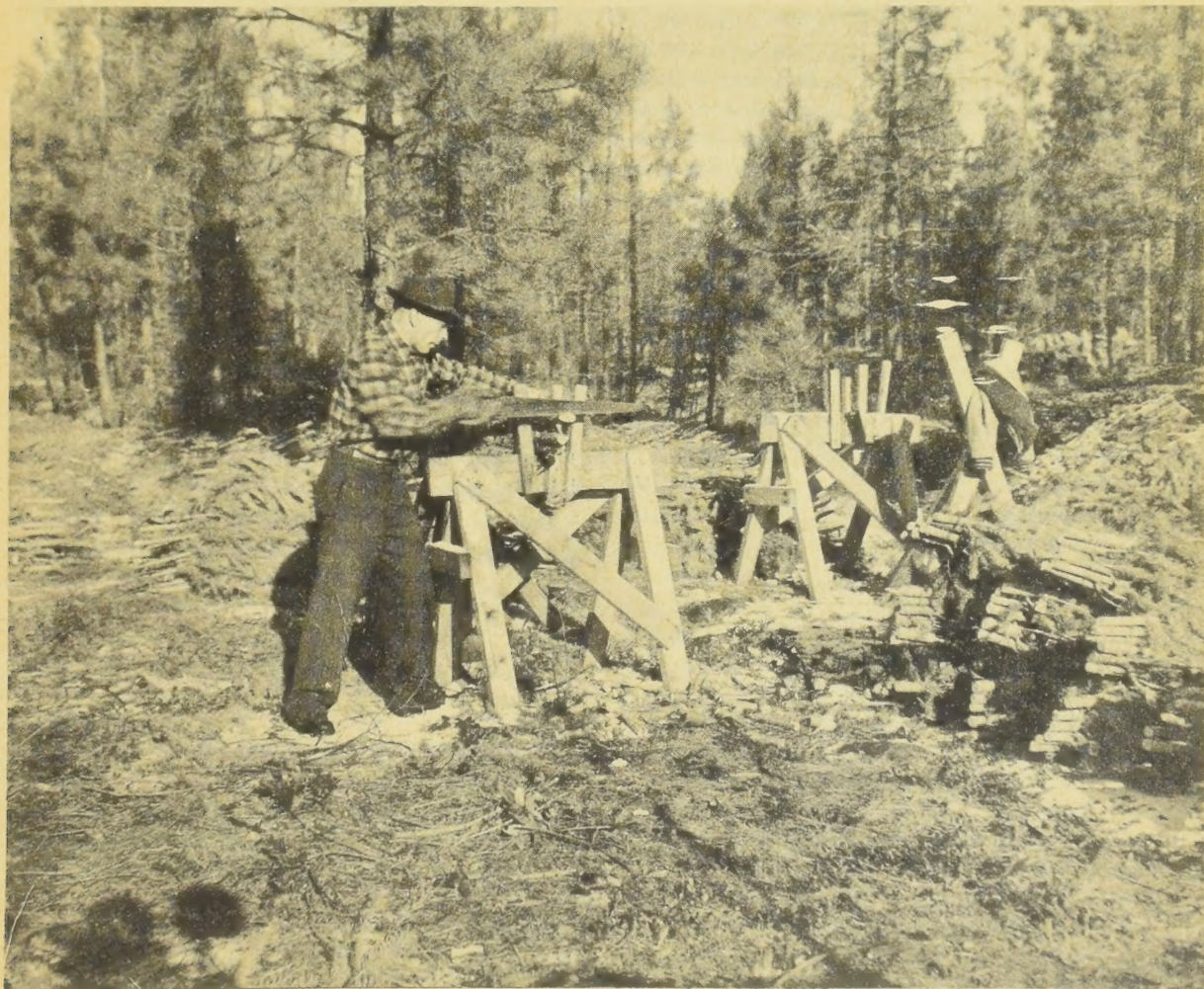
The requirements in a Christmas Tree are just about the reverse of those looked for among timber trees and the methods of achieving these requirements are such that the two industries can proceed simultaneously

without interference. For example, sites quite incapable of producing good Fir timber are often excellent for the growth of Christmas Trees even to the point where they may be rotated in perpetuity and thus evolve into a miniature "Normal Forest" which is the forester's dream come true.

In the "Normal Forest" the cut equals the increment and the rotation is the period required by the trees to reach maturity. In the case of Douglas Fir Christmas Trees opinions vary as to the length of time needed to attain marketable size. In British Columbia it is about thirty years, in New York about twelve years; in both cases for a six-foot tree.

Christmas Trees materialize from planting, from limb trees, from sprouts or from layering. Layering, in which a lower branch roots and sends up a new tree after five or ten years' contact with the ground, is an extremely slow process and is confined to the Norway Spruce. Sprouts originate from adventitious buds which break out and grow when the tree is cut

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BALING CHRISTMAS TREES at an Interior plantation in B.C. - (Photo: Courtesy B.C. Forest Service)

A FAMED PORTAGE

by W.N. (RUSTY) CAMPBELL

"So Geographers on Afric's Maps,
With savage pictures fill their gaps,
And over unhabitable downs,
Place elephants for want of towns."

Dean Swift.

THE late Dean Swift's jingle is, after all, not overdrawn for the times, nor have his old geographers with their winsomeness of imagination ceased their labors so very long ago. Now I have beside me as I write, a copy of a map drawn by the Geographer Descelier in the year 1550, and depicting the Canada of his day. His St. Lawrence River is surprisingly correct for as far as the old village of Ochelaga, but from then on we swing into regions of fantasy. He shows storming across "unhabitable downs" strange and unlikely wild animals, and fiercely equipped savages in deadly combat with pigmies and other wild persons. Then, of course, for the region west of what no doubt represents the Great Lakes, we meet up with the Chinaman this time, strange as it may seem, doing battle with bows and arrows against an army of towering ostriches. At Descelier's time and for many years after, the belief still held that the St. Lawrence River led to the great and rich Kingdom of Cathay or China as we moderns know it. In fact so strong and fixed was this belief, even among learned geographers, that the stretch of swift water in the St. Lawrence River just above where the Island of Montreal now stands, was named "Rapid Lachine" or China Rapid, and the old river port nearby, Lachine. Such names remain to-day to those features, marking an era rich with dreams of long past generations, but made up of men, nevertheless, that were ready to challenge the unknown to prove their faith in their beliefs. It is to these men we owe much of our early knowledge of the Canada that lay west of the Atlantic Seaboard. They carried a brave torch into wild and unknown territory, and many of these early explorers blazed their discoveries with bleached bones beside lonely lakes and unfriendly rivers. Courageous men, all, though some names are hardly known to us today.



This army of early mappers had now long passed away. Much of the country up to, and west of the great Lakes had by now been partly mapped and explored by the servants of the great fur trading companies and also by that brave company of missionaries that followed the trader's routes. These famous "black robes" played a large part in this work, some of them, indeed, having been trained as geographers by their church just for this very work in Western Canada. It was to follow up this work of exploring that Sir Alexander MacKenzie made his now famous overland crossing in the summer of 1793. Up till this time no white man had yet crossed the North American continent by land north of Mexico. The Lewis and Clark Expedition was years after MacKenzie's voyage, and made under conditions in no way as difficult and trying as the great Canadian's Northern crossing.

This portage dividing Arctic and Pacific waters discovered and crossed by the great explorer, though he would have scorned such a title, being a thoroughly modest man who

always described himself as a simple fur trader, is near the head of the Parsnip River and one of the small tributaries of the MacGregor River, both in now what we know as British Columbia. The Parsnip River empties its waters eventually into the great MacKenzie River and so into the Arctic Ocean. This portage place is not a great distance from the present Canadian National Railway, being in fact only about 25 miles by air line from Hansard Station. However, let nobody be unduly deceived, it lies back, for all that, behind high rugged ranges of mountains, and the only method of reaching it at present, outside of making a landing by bush plane on the small portage lake is by many days of travel up swift rivers. In fact except for a few trappers and rangers, and very lately, guided big game hunters, this famous portage place remains still unvisited and in the wilderness. The writer travelled up MacKenzie's route on the Parsnip River, crossed the divide by the portage with a dugout canoe, and so down the Bad River to the MacGregor River, many years ago. Since the explorer's time this route down the Bad River or James River, as the maps now show it, has seldom been made, and it is not recommended as a type of trip for the average tourist by any means, take my word for it, or take MacKenzie's description of the Bad River in his diary of 1793, portions of which I quote in this story later on.

Alexander MacKenzie had been instructed by his superiors in the North West Company of Montreal, to proceed to the west and explore territory for the benefit of the fur trade, and also to trace an overland route to the waters of the North Pacific Ocean. Accordingly he had outfitted at the river port of Lachine near Montreal the previous spring, 1792, and by canoe route had reached the lower Peace River that fall. There he had wintered near the mouth of the Smokey River where it empties into the mighty Peace. In the Spring following, accompanied by his party he started up river on what is now his famous crossing of the continental divide and reached the Pacific. It is especially his actual approach and passing over the divide from Arctic to Pacific waters, a spot so adjacent in distance at any rate, to us who are residents of North Central British Columbia, that is herein described.

It was a smiling May morning in the year of Our Lord 1793, when the leader and canoe party launched their craft on the rippling sunlit waters of the Peace River to head into the unknown, where, perhaps even "elephants" and other strange beasts and savage peoples awaited them on the other slope of the great snow-capped mountain peaks of the Rockies. Their craft was a, (quote) "birch bark canoe

25 feet long exclusive of the curves of the stern and bow, 26 inches hold, and 4 feet 9 inches beam." It seems a small and frail craft for such a purpose to us now, but we are further surprised to learn from the diary that it, "carried 3000 pounds and ten people." and they had some hundreds of miles of upstream work ahead of them. These old Canadian voyagers excelled in this river navigation with canoes, and we may be sure they knew what they were about, never fear. The names of this heroic crew should never be forgotten by Canadians who live west of the Rocky Mountains. They were as follows:- (Sir) Alexander MacKenzie, Joseph Landry, Charles Ducette, Francois Beaulieux, Baptise Bisson, Francois Courtois, Jacques Beauchamp, two Indians who acted as hunters and interpreters, and last, but not least, one dog.

Their method of travel was by paddle, and, when necessary by tracking or lining along the gravel bars. They passed the Rocky Mountain Canyon of the Peace River where now Hudson Hope stands, with great difficulty, being forced to portage their canoe and lading when part way through this impassable stretch of river where the whole might of the Peace hurls itself between rock walls. Eventually after successfully working through the rapids still known by the voyager's name, "Ne Parle Pas," and the treacherous and roaring Finlay Rapids, they reached the forks of the river, now known to us as Finlay Forks. Here they were fortunate in meeting with an Indian who informed them that the river flowing from the north (Finlay) was not the route they should take. Mackenzie thereupon turned up the large river flowing in from the south (Parsonip) and continued upstream. He mentions meeting a few Indians camped along the banks of this river who informed him, by means of signs chiefly, that this river becomes placid and slack when he has gone some distance and upstream navigation is then easy work. This cheered his paddlers exceedingly and with good reason, as the lower part of the Parsnip River is swift nearly all the way. He states he was surprised in finding these Indians (none of whom had seen a white man before) with spears tipped with iron spikes. They gave him to understand that they obtained these iron pieces from other Indians to the west, not from whites. (Quote) "their knives consist of pieces of iron shaped and handled by themselves. Their axes are something like our adze, and they use them in the same manner as we employ that implement. They were, indeed, furnished with iron in a manner that I could not have supposed, and plainly proved their communication with those who communicate with the inhabitants of the seacoast."

It was these Indians who introduced him, his diary tells us, to the wild parsnip as a food, which grows in great profusion on the moist flats along the margin of the river, and, he tells us, when properly prepared made a welcome addition to the party's scanty fare. Hence Mackenzie saw fit to name this river the "Parsnip", a name it still carries. It was along this river he mentions, (quote) "We saw this day two grisley and hideous bears." No doubt our old friends Mr. and Mrs. Grizzly Bear.

The upper reaches of the Parsnip River, which the party had now reached, is a remarkable stream for a mountain-fed river. For 60 or 70 miles of river prior to reaching the divide near its head it is extremely winding and almost slack, as a lake. In fact it is possible, if necessary, to paddle without undue effort the whole distance in certain stages of water level. After passing the Hominko River, which comes in from the left, the mountains begin to close in, and the windings and crookedness of the river increases. It is fringed heavily with willow marshes, in fact, so thickly are these willows grown along the margin, that it is impossible to make camp or even land, for that matter, for mile after mile.

I quote from the explorer's diary. "June 10th. We saw a ridge of mountains covered with snow to the south east. The land on our right was low and marshy for several miles where it rose into a ridge of mountains. We proceeded about 15 miles, when we landed about 7 o'clock and camped." June 11th. At 4 a.m. we broke camp and continued our voyage. A river appeared on our left (Hominko) at the foot of a mountain which from its conical form my young Indian called Beaver Lodge Mountain..... the river was reduced to the breadth of 15 yards."

A small creek, now known as Arctic Creek, well hidden by overhanging willows, flows into the upper reaches of the Parsnip River far up its winding course, and within sight of a large glacier which is recognized as its source. This small meandering creek drains out of what we now know as Arctic Lake, at whose head is the divide forming the portage. The writer remembers how difficult it was to locate its mouth among the willows, and also the great amount of sunken timber it was necessary to cut away in order to work the canoe up the windings of the creek.

Quote:- "In the afternoon we quitted the main branch which our guide says terminates in high snow covered mountains. The branch (Parsnip River) which we left was not more than 10 yards broad, while that which we entered (creek) was still less. Here the current was trifling and the channel so meandering

it was difficult to work the canoe forward."

Arctic Lake is a small narrow sheet of water less than 2 miles long lying between high rocky cliffs and the creek not over 3 miles in length inclusive of the many windings.

The diary continues:- "June 12th. The lake, is about 2 miles in length, east by south, and from 300 to 500 yards wide. This I consider as the highest and southermost source of the Unjigah or Peace River, Latitude 54 degrees 24 mins. north, Longitude 131 degrees west of Greenwich, which after a winding course through a vast extent of country, receiving many large rivers in its progress, and passing Slave Lake, empties itself into the Frozen Ocean in 70 degrees north Latitude and about, 155 degrees west Longitude."

At the far end of this small but famous lake is a small shelving beach scarce 50 feet in length. This is the only place for a boat or canoe to make a landing, or to pitch a small camp. It is from this point that one walks across a neck of land and reaches the Pacific Slope in a few minutes. When I first made this portage years ago there was a well defined Indian trail and our dugout canoe was hauled across without much trouble or difficulty. During the years, however, with no Indian travel having taken place here for a long time, the trail has completely disappeared, being grown to a thick covering of alders and willows. I could find very little trace of any trail when I examined the ground recently.

The diary for the same date, June 12th. 1793, continues:- "We landed and unloaded, where we found a beaten path leading over a low ridge of land 817 paces in length to another small lake (Bad Lake). The distance between the two mountains at this point is about a quarter of a mile, rocky precipices presenting themselves on both sides. A few large spruce trees and liards (cottonwoods) were scattered over the carrying place. There were also willows along the side of the water, with plenty of grass and weeds." Such is the famous explorer's modest description of his discovery of this great portage place 157 years ago, and it remains essentially the same today, and still in the silent wilderness, disturbed only perhaps by the lonely cry of the loon, or the complaining hoot of the owl.

He states that the natives had left their old canoes at this point with baskets hanging on trees. He removed some fish hooks made of bone, a goat's horn and a wooden trap in which his guide explained, the ground hog is taken. He left in return various small articles. He noted two streams tumbling down the rocks from the right and which empty into Arctic Lake. On the

Continued on page 42



CANADA PUFFS 8 BILLION CIGARETTES

by F.M. COWLIN



THE ancient habit of smoking is indulged in today more than any other luxury. In Canada alone, despite high costs 8,785,000 000 cigarettes were consumed in the first seven months of the current year, 464,000,000 more than in the corresponding period in 1947.

The origin of the habit is lost in the mists of antiquity. The first knowledge Europeans had of tobacco was brought by returning members of one of Columbus' exploring parties late in the fifteenth century. Travelling in what is now known as Cuba they had come across natives using the herb both for chewing and in the form of snuff. This plant, later to be cultivated so widely both in temperate and tropical climates, was taken first to Europe in 1558 by the French Ambassador to Portugal, Jean Nicot, which accounts for the name "nicotine" given to certain properties in tobacco. Nicot was much interested in the plant and sent some leaves to the Queen of France, Catharine de Medici.

At this time tobacco was used for medicinal purposes and was popularly regarded as a cure-all, its employment often resulting in further sickness and in some cases death.

Tobacco belongs to the nightshade order of plants: the generic name is *Nicotiana*. Its name may come from the place Tabaca in St. Domingo, or from the word used in Haiti to identify a pipe.

In its natural state tobacco contains as much as 17 percent nicotine, a poison when taken in quantity. However, such care has been used in cultivation, processing and manufacture to eliminate the undesirable elements of nicotine and related alkaloids, that today the small amount remaining constitutes a mild sedative only.

When it was found that tobacco induces relaxation and allayed fatigue and nervous tension, the practise of smoking grew apace and has brought serenity and comfort to millions of people the world over.

Some authorities state that the custom of smoking was general among the Chinese at a very early date.

When the white men first came to America smoking was common among the Indians and

was indulged in with great solemnity. Their method was to place the herb in a calumet, a pipe with a bowl fashioned of soft red stone with a very long stem brilliantly ornamented. This calumet, peace or medicine pipe was regarded with great veneration and was smoked with much ceremony only on occasions of great importance. It was a symbol of peace or war: acceptance of the calumet meant peace, while to refuse it signified war. The calumet was also used to ratify the making of important documents. Indians credited tobacco with divine power to cure the sick and impart courage in time of battle. It was also solemnly burned by them to invoke divine aid before any perilous undertaking.

In Europe the use of tobacco met with stern opposition from every quarter, and popes excommunicated those who indulged in the fragrant weed.

James I of England described smoking as a "loathsome custom."

In Turkey, the home of the redolent Turkish tobacco, smoking or snuff-taking merited capital punishment and the practice was forbidden in Russia, the penalty for a third offence being death.

In 1565 Sir John Hawkins introduced tobacco into England and there is good evidence that it was being extensively smoked eight years later. Twenty years later Sir Walter Raleigh and Sir Francis Drake did much to popularize its use. It is said that Drake handed Raleigh a pipe of tobacco for a last soothing whiff just before he went to the gallows in 1586.

When tobacco was brought to the notice of Queen Elizabeth she was not at all averse to the practice of smoking, even taking a few puffs herself and declaring it good.

As late as the reign of Queen Victoria, use of the fragrant weed was frowned upon in England, and guests smoked by stealth when they stayed at Windsor.

Tobacco production in Canada is now a large and profitable business. Of the three provinces interested in the industry, Ontario, Quebec and British Columbia Ontario is by far the largest

Concluded on page 37

Power, Salmon; or Both

Reprinted from 'Construction World'

BEFORE the end of the year British Columbia may have at least a partial answer to the question of whether the power and salmon industries will compete for the resources of the Chilco Lake region.

The answer will have far-reaching significance to the whole economy of British Columbia, and it may conceivably touch off one of the liveliest controversies between corporate interests in the history of the province.

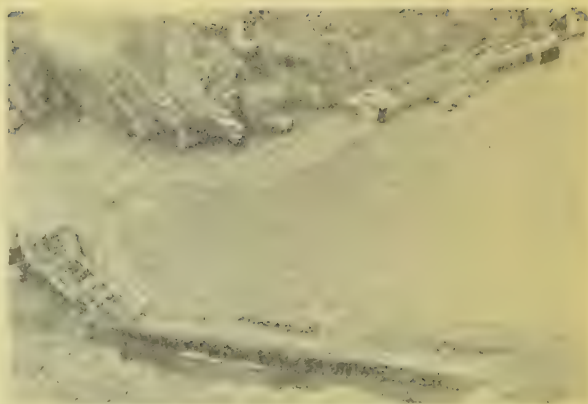
Aluminum Co. of Canada has applied for water rights at two major points- the Chilco and the Nechako, both representing important sections of the main Fraser River system, but differing in several important features, one of them being that the Nechako is virtually barren of commercial fish while the Chilco is regarded as the most promising and productive of all the Fraser's tributaries in the international program for restoring the salmon runs on the world's biggest single river fishery.

All things being equal, the Aluminum Co. might prefer the Chilco as the source of power for its proposed \$500 million aluminum plant because a Chilco hydro plant could more easily be tied into the Northwest power pool, and the company might be able to sell more surplus energy to other industrial users than if it were located further north in the Nechako region.

CHILCO PRODUCES MOST SALMON

But, of course, things are not equal, as the fishing interests have clearly emphasized. The Chilco Sockeye salmon run, they point out, is unique in that it provides two good years in succession on two separate cycles of four-year fish. The Chilco produces from 70 to 75 percent of the catch of Fraser River Sockeye in two out of each four years. Remove the Chilco Sockeye, and the B.C. salmon industry, which produced \$30 million last year, would be seriously jeopardized.

On the other hand, the aluminum industry has a vast potential to offer British Columbia - creation of a whole new industrial community with a payroll comparable to that of Consol



Left and right bank fishways at Hell's Gate on the Fraser River about 130 miles upstream from the mouth. Built by International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission, the fishways enable the salmon to bypass a difficult stretch where velocities and turbulences at various water levels blocked, delayed or injured fish headed for spawning grounds.

idated Mining and Smelting Co., and production of a newcomer among B.C.'s long and diversified list of metals. The aluminum industry must have - cheap power and vast quantities of it. In view of all this, Aluminum Co. of Canada has a pretty strong case in its application for water rights - anywhere.

The series of public hearings on the water rights applications held last month allowed all interested parties to voice objections or approval, but it is a natural assumption that the provincial government hopes for a course of action that will give the aluminum people what they want without disturbing the fisheries group. It is for this reason, and because of the Aluminum company's recognition of the opposition to the Chilco site that most of the preliminary surveys have been carried out in the Nechako region. Development of this region would lower B.C.'s salmon pack by a maximum of only 10,000 cases per year.

SOLUTION AWAITED

But whether the Aluminum Co. will be satisfied with the Nechako remains to be seen. It has already been determined that the site originally chosen for the dam at the east end of Francois Lake is impractical because of the existence of an old river bed some 300 feet below the surface. Two other possible locations for the dam exist and will be tested. If these tests also fail to meet requirements, the probable course will be an undertaking to show that salmon and power will mix, after all, and that power dams on the Chilco will not necessarily affect the salmon run adversely. This is something that the fishing group will not concede - not now, anyway.

Regardless of what happens in this particular contest for Fraser power, there can be little doubt that the river will be the arena for contention between powerful factions in the future.

Barnyard Bear Hunt

by E.K. PAUPST

Giscombe, B.C.



As we both stand over six feet, you can see he was a big brute.

It all started one evening when I was out on the range rounding up the milk cows and checking the young stock.

At that time we had a huge wolf-dog and as usual I had him along.

We had the cows we wanted rounded up and were starting home. Off to one side away I saw something black moving slowly towards us.

I watched until I was sure it was a bear. Then the old 30 U.S. came into play. I got away one shot, then it was gone. I sent the dog home with the cows and lit out on that bear trail.

He led me thru some rough country into an open blueberry patch. There I saw him lying on a little hillside watching his backtrail, but he failed to allow for a long-range rifle.

My first shot went low, the next two entered just behind the left shoulder. Then he hit the bush like a runaway bulldozer, and was out of sight.

Taking my time I loaded up and paced to his bed, 420 yards. No wonder I hit low on my first shot!

What I thought then was rudely snapped out by the sight of the bear about 50 yards off in a

As Major R.C. Farrow, provincial comptroller of water rights, stated, the aggregate maximum gross capacity of three major potential power projects on the Fraser - at Chilco, Nechako and Tshtsa - is some 3,700,000 horsepower. "So far as known," declared Major Farrow, "there are no other remaining power sites of like magnitude anywhere in Canada or the United States."

In view of the tremendous stakes involved, outcome of the hearings will be awaited with widespread interest.

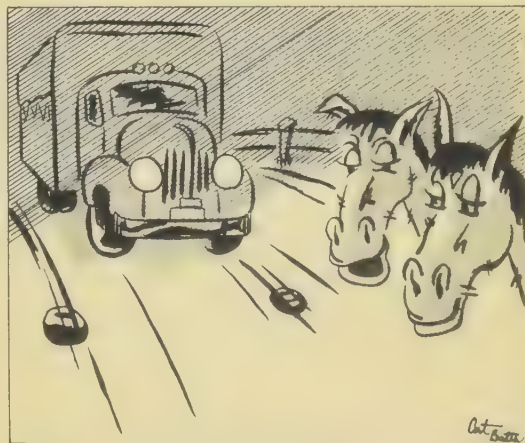
clearing. I waited praying he would turn broadside and not take off for parts unknown. Seconds passed like hours, then slowly he turned just right. The old gun roared out its song of death.

The bear bounded forward then slumped to the ground, dead.

Quietly I walked closer to send the last bullet into his brain. He was dead, but I'd rather use one more slug and be safe, than wind up scattered all over the country.

We had no scale to weigh the brute, but the hide measured 9 feet 3 inches from tip to tip. The head measured 17 inches between the ears.

A few days later I was back at the scene of the kill. About 30 feet from where I had stood for the last shot, were the remains of another bear, almost as large as the one I shot at! I had not seen it in the dusk. Had I known there were two at the time, I should still be going strong!



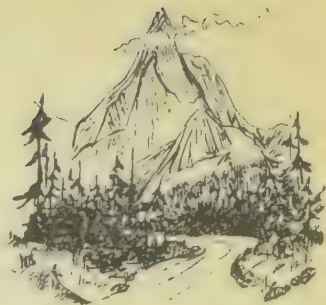
'Let's go across while there's some light...'

British Columbia - 1851-1914

The following is the FIFTH of a series of excerpts from the historical volume entitled "British Columbia"

by **F.W. HOWAY** and **E.O.S. SCHOLEFIELD**

published in 1914 by the S.J. CLARKE Publishing Co. and now out of print



IN THIS ISSUE

The Deep Diggings of Cariboo

So ends the year 1861. Taken all in all, a very successful year. Statistics give the output of gold for 1861 12 \$2,666,118. But beyond this and more important, was the general feeling that all the creeks of Cariboo were gold-bearing. To the outside world went reports of great "finds" - stories of men who in a short season had sprung from penury to wealth - exaggerated tales of rich deposits as wondrous as those that Ali Baba and Aladdin had found. "The excitement respecting the Cariboo mines is fast reaching fever heat in this vicinity. People will not think or talk about anything else, even the battles of the Rebellion are forgotten or cease to interest them, so engrossing is the subject of the new mines. Everybody talks of going to the Cariboo diggings in the spring. We may, therefore, confidently look for a rush to these mines next season, equalled only by the Fraser River excitement of 1858. So far as we can learn, every miner from this new gold field has brought with him from \$5,000 to \$20,000, all of which has been obtained in the short space of two or three months."

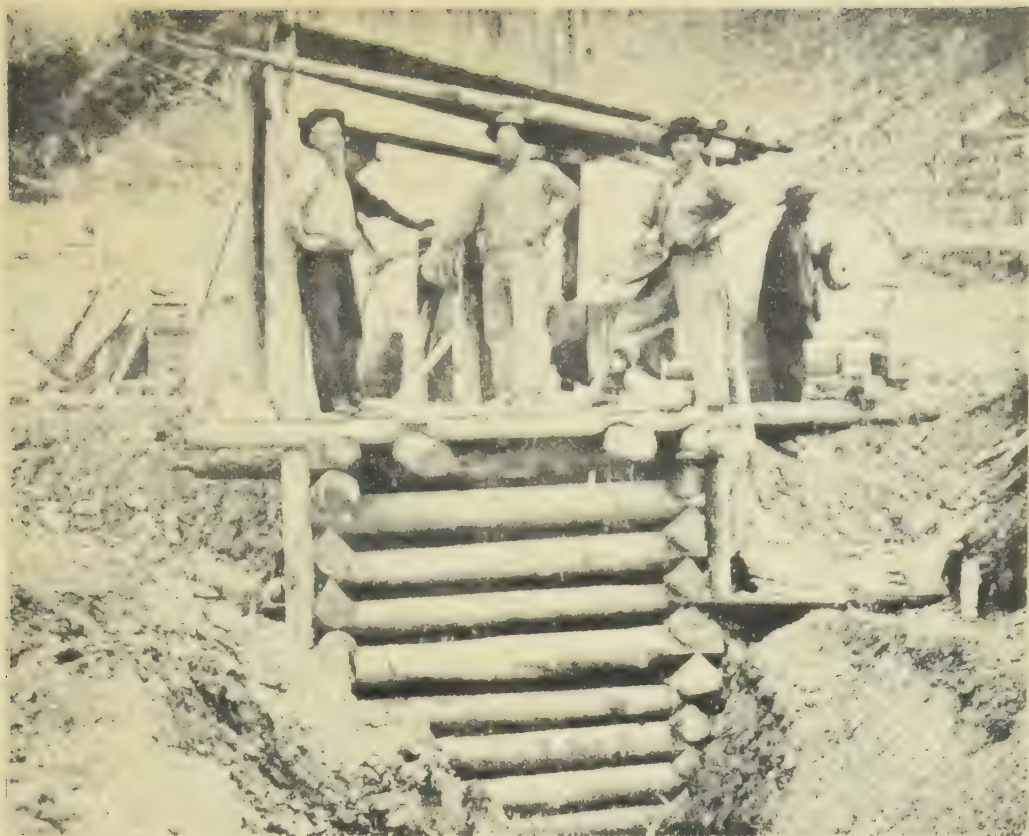
Here was the genesis of the "rush" of 1862 - not from California alone, but from the Eastern States and the Canadas, from the British Isles and the Continent. These immigrants came principally by the recognized route by way of Panama, San Francisco, Victoria, and thence up the Fraser. But as in 1858, so in 1862, when the end of navigation was reached, miles of forbidding and dangerous land travel intervened. As the song ran:-

"Five hundred miles to travel where
naught but mosses grew
To cheer the weary traveller on the
road to Cariboo."

Many who set out with determination, faltered and fell by the wayside. Some parties also

came by the overland route from St. Paul, through Winnipeg or Fort Garry, along the Saskatchewan, across the Rockies by the Yellowhead Pass and down the Fraser; but as they did not reach Cariboo until the end of 1862, their experiences will be dealt with later.

The Gold Commissioner of Cariboo, in the fall of 1861, had "laid over" the claims until June 1, 1862; that is to say, he had suspended until that date the operation of the law which rendered a claim invalid if it remained unworked for seventy-two hours. This was necessary, as the mining then being confined to shallow diggings - from three to twelve feet in depth - it was impossible to carry it on during the rigorous winter of Cariboo. By the end of May, probably six thousand miners had entered Cariboo, making their way under great difficulties, so as to be on the ground when the "lay over" should expire. Some had in three weeks walked the whole distance from Lillooet, carrying fifty and sixty pound packs. Over two thousand and expectant men were on Williams Creek alone. Thus was created an unprecedented demand for food and supplies, and these, becoming very scarce, commanded famine prices; for example, flour, bacon, beans, and salt were \$1.50 a pound, dried apples \$2.50 a pound, and gum-boots \$42.50 a pair. The "lay over" period was extended to July 1st. This, with the high prices, disheartened many, who returned to the lower country. While some of the disappointed denounced the country as humbug, the majority had faith in Cariboo, only complaining of being starved out. They were loud in their demand for a road to the mines so as to provide sufficient supplies at reasonable prices, declaring that wagons must be employed, as there were not enough mules in the country to bring in over the miserable trails then existing the necessary



THE SHEEPSHEAD, WILLIAMS CREEK



THE PRAIRIE FLOWER, WILLIAMS CREEK



food and implements.

Very little prospecting in Cariboo marked 1862. Jack of Clubs Creek, Sugar Creek, twenty miles northeast of Lightning, Van Winkle, Chisholm, Davis, Last Chance, and Anderson, tributaries of Lightning, were tried, but the excessively high price of supplies prohibited development.

On Williams Creek mining went on above the canyon, where the shallow diggings continued to pay well. Edward Stout had ventured to try the mouth of Stout's Gulch, which is below the canyon, and had found there, at comparatively shallow depth, the dark colored, water worn gold of Williams Creek; going deeper he found the bright, jagged, and more valuable Stout's Gulch gold. Encouraged by these results, Wm. Barker, commonly called Billy Barker, had taken up a claim still further down Williams Creek, in the vicinity of the present town of Barkerville. The other miners ridiculed this action, believing that all the gold was above the canyon; but he persevered and drew the prize of 1862. "Billy Barker has struck the lead on Williams Creek on the flat below the canyon at a depth of 52 feet, obtaining \$5 to the pan." A few days later the Canadian company was similarly fortunate. Then John A. Cameron,

"Cariboo Cameron," found the lead even lower down the creek. Opinions changed. Below the canyon became the favorite spot. These diggings from fifty to eighty feet deep, gave an air of permanency to Williams Creek, which contributed a large proportion of the \$2,656,903. credited to the mines of the colony during 1862.

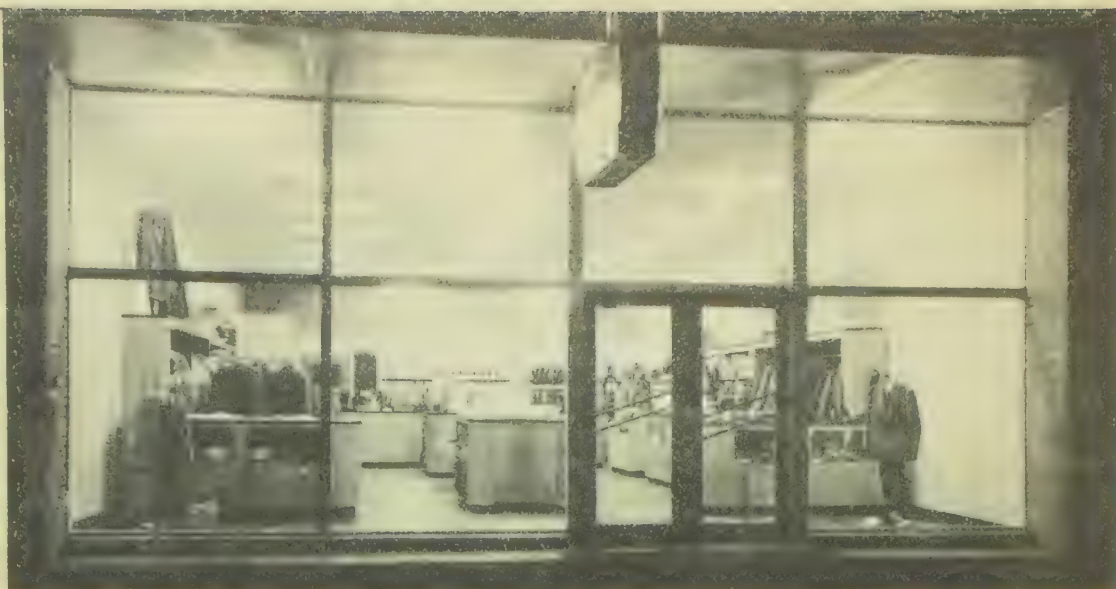
Lightning Creek, owing to the great expense attendant upon the opening of claims there, gave up but little of its treasure; still the greatest confidence was felt as to the ultimate result of operations thereon. Being most extensive, it was expected that, with the advent of cheaper supplies, it would contribute its full quota towards the general yield. In 1862 shafts were sunk from Eagle Creek to Davis Creek, along Lightning, but below Van Winkle (now known as Stanley they were uniformly unsuccessful, being unable to cope with the water.

Antler Creek was regarded as coquettish in 1862. Although on its banks good prospects were obtained, and rich hill diggings announced, still the result was disappointing. One claim, Murray's, yielded in three days eighty-five ounces to each man employed; another, Hoy's, gave seventy-two ounces as the result of six men's work for half a day; while a third,

Continued on page 38
99 Mining Report, 1875, p. 608.

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The Wooing of "Deer Eyes"

by FRED S. BJORKMAN

The old prospector filled his inevitable pipe before answering the question. He had related a yarn two years earlier about seeing a graveyard full of skeletons dancing and fighting to the tune of a noise that made itself, and his audience, many of whom had heard the yarn, were eager to know if he had encountered any more such doings. The peculiar part of that affair was that what could be called partial confirmation had come from the vast, forest covered, mountain studded, lake filled silences of the Cassiar. To be sure this 'confirmation' had only been from a few Indians, 'who now regarded the prospector as a master Medicine Man. Whatever it was he possessed they could not say, but they would not have put it beyond him to put Old Nick himself to flight.

However, after he was polluting the atmosphere to his satisfaction with his pipe, he replied.

"Nope. Never seen anything like it since. No more boneyard picnics hev I had the pleasure to see. But on account o' my seein' it, some Injuns think I'm a medicine man 'thout equal, while some whites think I gotta be bit by a louse before I can even generate an itch above the hair line. But that's a part o' the price I hev to pay for my own contribution to science. I hev seen, an' so know, thet when noise makes itself peculiar things happen. An' if yuh know a fact is a fact, then act accordingly regardless o' what folks might think. So I can tell yuh this, if'n yuh hear of a so-called haunted house, listen for noise that makes itself. If it does, the ground'll quake in unison an yuh're all right, it's haunted. But if'n it don't, then look out for a joke or a dirty deal that someone's cookin' up."

"I'll tell yuh why. Last summer I was peospectin' an un-named river for gold up in the Cassiar. There was some on it too. Far up this river I came on a small scatterin' o' Injun



" Deer Eyes "

cabins - just a wee little village o' mebbe fifty inhabitants. They lived in comfortable idleness 'cept for trapping an' in that some was more ambitious than others."

"Now most whites mebbe think that Injuns just exist 'thout no problems. But they have. In that village, there was a young buck whose name I can't slobber my tongue around, but who we'll call 'Longlegs.' At that time he'd been chasin' a young klootch who we kin call 'Deer Eye.' That's 'bout the correct transliteration."

"Dear Eye was also bein' pursued by some other young bucks, among 'em a middle-aged egg who was the Medicine Man. This bird claimed he knew the Black Arts. To us o' course the black arts is all hogwash. But not to the Injuns. They believe in spooks, an' if anyone does, o' course they're danged easy to fool."

"Now Deer Eyes had cast a few peeks in Longleg's direction, partly because he was at least as good a pick as anyone there, an' no doubt partly because he had a good, if somewhat remote an' inaccessible trapline. This o' course didn't suit the Medicine Man one whoop. So he began to hatch a plot."

"It so happened that Longlegs had once had

a partner on one o' his trips back to his trap-line a couple o' years earlier. This pard had died durin' the winter on the line. Naturally 'nough, only Longlegs had been there when he died. And since the trap-line was a long ways back, with all the mountains passes snowed in, he hadn't been able to report the death until he come out early the followin' summer. When he did, a bunch o' Injuns went in an' packed the bones out - I dunno why, but they did, an' buried them in the local boneyard."

"Wal, that lousy Medicine Man slithered up to Longlegs, lookin' plumb serious, yet pretendin' to be friendly, an' told him that the spook o' his dead pard had just paid him a visit. Seems this spook had told the Medicine Man that Longlegs had been partly responsible for his death. Further, Longlegs hadn't tried to please or appease his spirit after he'd died. So now the spook was plumb hostile an' wanted revenge."

"Now any o' us woulda' laughed at such a yarn an' told the Medicine Man to tie a rock around his neck an' go jump in the lake. But among those Injuns it was no joke. Longlegs was scared plumb silly. He asked the Medicine Man what he should do to make peace with the spirit. The Medicine Man, the ol' crook, pretended to be sorry for Longlegs. He accepted a 'gift,' if one could call such extortion-goods a gift, an' said he'd have a talk with the spook an' find out what had to be done. The old cuss-could no more talk to a spook than he could produce one. It was all part o' his plot to win Deer Eyes."

"So o' course the thing couldn't stop. A few days later the Medicine Man come up to Longlegs lookin' really desperate. Said he'd talked to the spook in a windstorm, an' that the spook was in a savage temper, an' had told him he would accept no gifts an' wouldn't be satisfied until Longlegs was in the spirit world where they could have it out face to face - an' that he was goin' to call Longlegs into the spirit world quick-like, so's he'd be a spook soon."

"'Bout that time I got up to the village myself, Longlegs was walking about in a daze in those days, like a man who'd nin hit with a club. He didn't know what to do, but expected to be carried off into the spook world at any minute. The whole village had heard about it, an' was waitin', curious, an' with the cruel pleasure o' savages, to see what was goin' to happen to Longlegs. An' naturally Deer Eyes shied away from him too. She wasn't havin' anything t'do with a guy who was apt to be carted off to the spirit world any minute - the object o' matrimony, even among savages, bein' somewhat along different lines. Further, she was afraid that even if she pretended to be friendly with



"LONGLEGS"

Longlegs the spook would get mad an' cart her off too. So poor Longlegs had his place purty well to hisself. He considered hisself a walkin' cadaver on whom rigor mortis hadn't yet set in, but was about to at any time."

"Well, I busted right out laughin' when I heard 'bout it. Told 'em all, I knew dang well

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there was no spooks, an' that if'n anyone would live till a spook killed 'im he'd make Methuselah look like an infant. These Injuns had heard o' me too, an' my boneyard picnic, so they didn't just pass off my judgement as bein' that o' an ignorant white man. They wondered some, an' Deer Eyes even went up to Longlegs an' acted plumb friendly."

"The dang crook Medicine Man had a bad day or two. He was in a spot. He had to pretend to be glad that Longlegs was safe, but he hated like pizen to see Deer Eyes slippin' to his rival,

"But he wasn't through. He told Longlegs, a day or so after I'd come, that he'd seen the spook again, an' that the spook was still mad an' was goin' to show the whole Injun village that it could overpower my magic, or medicine, even though I was the very Blabber McInnes o' boneyard oicnic fame. So, in a way it became an issue between me an' the Medicine Man. That crook said Longlegs would die, an' I'd said there was no spooks so he couldn't possibly die by a spooks hand. So no one in the village knew just where matters stood, but everyone was interested. It was a peculiar sort o' contest with Longlegs as the unwillin' guinea pig."

"Longlegs lived in a cabin that stood by itself in a small clearing to one side o' the village. Its door faced north, an' its one pane window faced west. Just about fifty feet from this window the forest commenced again. It was the edge of the clearing which surrounded the cabin. That cabin hadn't been visited in a long time by any o' the Injuns, ever since Longlegs was supposed to be in dutch with the spook o' his dead partner, an' now they were waitin' to see who was right, the Medicine Man or me."

"Well, on my fourth day there, Longlegs came to me pretty scared. He claimed that the night before, the spook had been tearin' around his cabin somethin' fierce, scrapin' on the walls an' rattlin' the window an' door. He'd made fearful noises an' told Longlegs to make hisself ready for the third night from then, cause he'd be comin' for him then, an' no one, not even Blabber McInnes could stop him. The spook said he'd got terrible mad 'cause he'd come to see me. So Longlegs said he was sorry he'd ever seen me, an' wanted me to stay away from him as he wanted his last days on earth to be peaceful. He was gonna say good-bye to Deer Eyes too."

"I told him I'd stay away from him on only one condition - that he answer a few questions. I asked him how he knew it was the spook an' not the Medicine Man who'd been there. He said he'd gone to see that crook first thing in the

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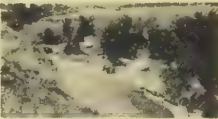
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"The Hollywood agent said at lunch, "My wife says she is going to leave me if I don't stop running around."

"Too bad," said his friend.

"Yeah," said the agent. "I'm going to miss her."

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PACIFIC PETROLEUM'S PEACE RIVER DRILL - SUCCESSFUL AT 4800 FT. LEVEL



Last month's cover of Cariboo & Northwest Digest, (reproduced to the left) showed an angle shot of the tower of Pacific Petroleum's new mobile drill rig. At the time the photo was taken, in early October, it was set up three miles off the Alaska Highway approximately half-way between Fort St. John and Dawson Creek in B.C.'s Peace River Block. Drilling had reached a depth of 3600 ft., and work was proceeding around the clock, pushing the hole ever deeper.

A month later, just over the "triassic" formation at the 4843 level natural gas was brought in, in large quantities. On first test the well gave natural gas at the rate of 416,000 cubic feet per day at a pressure of 1800 pounds and company officials believe that a second test will indicate more gas and oil as well.

Although gas wells were brought in some twenty odd miles to the east, on both sides of the Alberta - B.C. border, the flow from these wells is small, the new discovery is by far the largest in the history of the province.

Since Alberta has yet to sanction the export of natural gas, the importance of the discovery cannot be over-emphasized. If B.C. can develop sufficient gas reserves within the boundaries of B.C., Pacific Petroleum's subsidiary, the



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QUESNEL, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Westcoast Transmission Co. Ltd., will be able to go ahead with its plans for the construction of a pipeline to Vancouver. This project, to cost approximately \$150,000,000., would, if carried out, not only create a construction boom throughout the central interior, the like of which it has never seen, but every town along the route of the line between the Peace River and Vancouver, would have the long-term benefit of being able to attract new industries and new business because of the availability of cheap fuel.



'I can't remember a year when I've seen so many dirty chimneys!'

♀Feminine voice over telephone: "Hello, are you Harry?"

♂Masculine voice: "Not especially lady, but I am far from bald."



'Madam, I'm conducting a poll ...What do you do for a living?'

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KLONDYKE TRAGEDY

Sepulchre of Ice and Snow

AN AWFUL AVALANCHE
BURIES A GREAT HOST
OF PEOPLE.

It Came Without A Moment's
Warning.

The Saddest Incident Not Only of Great Rush to Gold Fields
But in the History of Alaska and the Northwest Territory.

The horrible calamity that happened last Sunday at Stone House, where fifty or more persons were buried alive under a tremendous avalanche of ice and snow, is now the absorbing topic not only of Dyea, but all over the world. The sad messenger of death is on its way to anxious mothers, wives, sisters, children and friends in all parts of the country. The uncertainty about the number actually buried, and how many remain in their icy graves wrapped in their shroud of spotless white, adds to the horror of the awful catastrophe. Every family who has some member enroute to the gold fields will grieve even more than those who have actual tidings of death. Realizing the anxiety which will be felt the "Dyea Trail" will endeavour to give as correct a list as possible of those who lost their lives.

Many erroneous and injurious reports have gone forth in regard to Skaguay. The statements and flagrant untruths should put to shame the authors; but Skaguans have no shame. Their ambition seems to be to heap misery upon others, they glory in publishing false statements; they are goulsh enough to wish that there had been 5,000 buried if it only happened on the Chilcoot trail. What care they for the thousands of anxious relatives at home? They show no respect for the dead, but apparently take hellish delight in magnifying the awful fiction

Editor's Note: The headlines reproduced here are a photographic reproduction of the heading of the actual news story which appeared in the "Dyea Trail", of April, 9th, 1898, a newspaper published at Dyea, Alaska, jumping off place for the Klondyke gold fields via the famed "Chilcoot Pass." The story which is reprinted below, as it appeared in the original paper, relates how scores of gold-seekers lost their lives when a party of approximately two hundred were swept away by an avalanche not far from the summit of the pass. Many were buried for hours before being rescued more dead than alive - some relate their feelings while buried. It is obvious from the tone of the story, and from other news items (from the same paper) reprinted below, that a strong rivalry existed between Dyea and Skagway - each claiming to have the best trail to the gold fields in the interior, with the editor of the Dyea paper giving vent to his feelings by referring to Skagway as a "hole of hell". Elsewhere he expresses confidence that Dyea will be the seaport terminous of the first railway to the interior. The construction of the White Pass railway from Skagway to Whitehorse, Y.T. soon afterwards, ended once and for all time, Dyea's hopes. We have added a few miscellaneous excerpts from the same paper to give the reader an insight into that colourful and interesting period in the history of the north country.



The famous Chilcoot Pass, showing two of the tranways, and in the foreground, the 'Scales'.

fiction, and in the hour of death to take advantage of this sad calamity by advertising their fever-stricken hole of hell.

In order to give our readers the facts, we will take us on the trip from Dyea to the summit - try and print them a pen-picture of the scene of the avalanche, and of the trail the entire length, and thus enable them to gain a fairly good idea of the only natural passageway to the interior of Alaska. The writer left Dyea on foot at 7 A.M., on March 30th, went to the summit, and was back in Dyea the same day.

The scene of the accident is about 18 miles from Dyea, and two miles above Sheep Camp. It did not occur on the main trail, but in a draw, kind of cut-off - there was no object in using it; no necessity at all, and the people were warned of the danger they were in, but the warning went unheeded. The Indian packers quit work on that locality two days before the occurrence. Sam Herron and Jack Cavanaugh, two of the most experienced and noted guides and pioneers of this country, have frequently warned people who were camping there of the danger of the slides which occur in the vicinity, but their warnings were unheeded.

THE TRAIL FROM DYEA HARBOUR

A brief description of the trail from Dyea harbour will, perhaps, be appreciated at this time. Dyea is the most northern city in the United States, situated on a high, dry and sandy beach in a beautiful valley at the head of Lynn Canal nestling between towering snow-capped mountains. Two branches of the Dyea River flow is about one mile wide and extends to Canyon City, a distance of nine miles. The summit can be seen from Dyea. It is not as high by a thousand feet as the mountains on either side, and has the appearance of a saddle in a gap of the mountain. The valley is well timbered and a trail follows the bank of the river to Canyon City, but most of the freighting is done in the winter when the river is frozen solid. At Canyon City we find at the foot of towering mountains a new and not unpretentious city - there are comfortable hotels, restaurants, saloons and business houses. In the canyon beyond there is room only for a single team, and only passable in the winter when the river is frozen over, being a raging torrent following the spring break-up in May when its narrow forty-foot width is choked with yellow swirling water. The narrow canyon winds for four miles, with perpendicular rock walls on either side, ending in Pleasant Valley - an ideal camping spot covered with spruce and cottonwood trees. A mile further on we come to the famous Sheep Camp, so named because a party had once

driven a flock of sheep through to Dawson City, and had camped at the spot for several weeks.

There is little room for a town at the spot, and at this time it is covered for over a mile square with tents so thickly set as to prevent anyone passing between them. There are two drug stores, a hospital and fifteen hotels and restaurants and coffee houses and general stores too numerous to mention. Outfits are hauled to this point on sleds, and from here are packed on sleds, dogs, etc., to the Scales, four miles above, where begins the real work for man and beast. About a mile from Sheep Camp we come to what is called "Stone House". This is a great boulder or immense rock setting high by itself, and deriving its name from the fact that it has an overhanging shelf which affords some shelter in heavy storms. Nearby is what is called "long hill", and is something the shape of a whaleback. It is the most tedious and tiresome strip of the whole journey - even more so than the summit. It is about a half mile wide and slopes off to right and left towards the mountains, forming on each side a sort of ravine. It was in one of these ravines that the awful slide occurred. Beyond Long Hill is yet another and steeper hill to climb, though considerably shorter. Over this hill and you are at the Scales. The Scales is like a big basin on the top of a mountain. There is from ten to twenty feet of snow here all the time. Shacks and tents are mostly eight and ten feet below the surface of the snow, and the same thing is the case at Sheep Camp.

The town is composed of about forty tents, and five or six buildings. Messrs. Fuller and Joppe had a fine restaurant there and did a big business. The Scales derived its name from the fact that in times gone by, the packers had a pair of scales here to weigh the freight.

There are three tramways in operation from the Scales to the top of the summit, each having a capacity of 20 tons per day, and the big Chilcoot Tramway which has its cables laid from Canyon City to Crater Lake.

Men can easily pack 150 pounds over the summit. Steps are made in the snow, and in good weather there is a continual string of people going up these snow stairs - men, women and children. The packers go up this way and when returning coast down a long rut like a toboggan runway. The distance is about a quarter of a mile.

The trip is very fascinating and not at all difficult. I would not miss the grandeur of this trip for thousands of dollars. The top of the summit is completely covered with the outfits of the thousands bound for the gold fields. The Canadian Customs Officers are stationed here in tents. They are not any too comfortable but

manage to endure the exalted and stormy position. They have their wood and fuel packed to them from below Sheep Camp and pay five cents a pound for it. From the summit down to Lake Lindeman (nine miles) is a very easy trip being all down a gradual grade.

KLONDYKE TRAGEDY EXPERIENCES

Said Mr. Black, a man who was taken out alive and well:

"I was one of a large party which had started from the Scales. We were lined up along a rope. It was snowing and the trail was almost obliterated by the fresh fallen snow. I had no warning of the avalanche. It was upon us before we knew it. I found myself buried, and realized at once what had happened. My legs and one arm were outstretched. The outstretched arm lay across the body of a woman, whom I afterwards learned was Mrs. Maxson. My other arm was doubled on my chest. I could breathe only with great difficulty. After a great deal of patient effort I worked my hand up from my chest and removed a little of the snow away from my mouth and nostrils, which gave me great relief. Encouraged by this I completely exhausted myself in efforts to work my legs and other arm loose, but I failed to budge them. Tired out I dropped off peacefully to sleep. Several hours afterwards I awoke greatly refreshed and distinctly heard the sound of the first rescuing shovel struck into the snow. A very distinct change had taken place while I was sleeping - all was silent when I awoke. Not a voice was to be heard under the snow. Before I had gone off to sleep the voices of the entombed had reached me from all directions. Many seemed to be praying and some were muttering good-byes to relatives at home. Everyone was talking. It was the most ominous and impressive time of my life. I shall never forget it. I did not suffer any pain. My agony was mental.

It is said that when Mr. Black was uncovered, he laughed and told the rescuers to pass him by in favour of others who needed more attention.

Mr. A. Mueller, of Vancouver, who was buried six feet in the avalanche, and was rescued alive, gives a most graphic description of the terrible affair. He was dug out after being imprisoned for three hours. Mr. Mueller was conducting a restaurant at the Scales, and his story is as follows:-

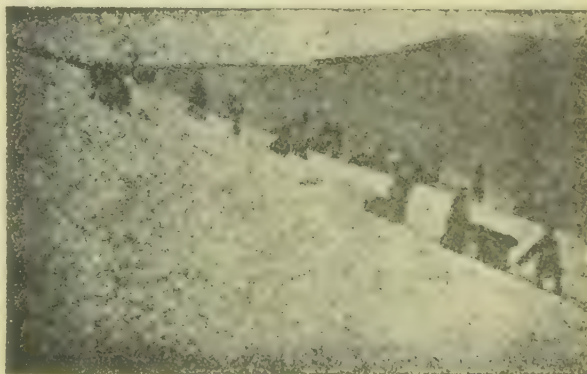
"I had one of the most substantial buildings at the Scales, and, although we were a little uneasy about the heavy fall of snow, myself and partner, Mr. Joppe, did not apprehend any danger for ourselves, but the constant small snowslides which occurred during the night gave us uneasiness about neighbours who were in



Dyea, Alaska

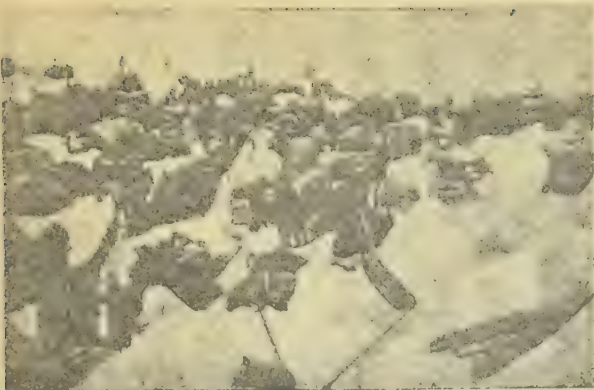


Stone House. Digging for bodies lost in the snow slide.



The Chilcoot Pass - sliding down from the summit towards Crater Lake.

tents. About four o'clock in the morning one of our neighbours came rushing into our cabin and yelled, to for God's sake come and help him; that a slide had buried the Maxsons in their tent. We hurried with shovels to the rescue and extricated Mrs. Maxson and two others. Fearing



The summit of the Chilkooot Pass.



another occurrence of the kind, we aroused the camp and concluded it was unsafe to remain longer and decided to pack up for Sheep Camp. While we were preparing to leave the Chilcoot Tramway construction gang came down from the summit, and urged us to move at once, and we decided to follow them. They gave us a long

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Last outpost before reaching the summit, the 'Scales' - note congestion in the background.



Once over the summit the waterways were reached. Thousands of boats were made fro the trip across the lakes and down the Yukon River. Pictured above - Lake Bennett, 1898.

rope to enable us to keep together and started out ahead of us. About fifteen minutes later, we got into line. I had concluded that we might need shovels to clear drifts with, and made everyone who could procure one, do so. After getting the shovels we took hold of the rope and started with Mr. Joppe in the lead. We proceeded down the trail about one thousand feet below the

Scales, where we came to a ravine just above the O. & I. power house. As we entered it we heard a low rumbling sound. Someone shouted 'snow slide', but I thought it the howling of the wind and answered back to her to that effect. I had hardly gotten the words out of my mouth when I found myself buried to the hips in a solid mass of snow and ice. I did not have time

to think before I was pushed over on my side by another mass and covered completely, to a depth of six feet they tell me. I realized the the awful fate in a moment. I knew it was not myself alone that was buried, but thought that perhaps those on the last end of the rope were not buried, and the construction gang, who were ahead of us, would be ahead of the slide and possibly save us.

I thought of home and friends - every act and hope of my life crowded into my mind in a moment - but I did not give up hope of being saved. I could not move hand or foot. I was held as tightly as if I were in a plaster cast. I did not shout or cry out, as I realized I would need all my breath and strength. I could hear people near me groaning and praying; but in a very few minutes all was still, and I became unconscious. I fully realized my position - it was not at all tortuous, but simply that of going to sleep. When I awoke I found myself on the floor of the power house; and it was some time before I could realize it all happened. I was terribly bruised and was black and blue all over; but I feel that no permanent injury will result. They tell me I was buried three hours. They took out seven alive, that were on the rope with us, but four of the seven afterwards died."

"A singular and romantic episode occurred after I was taken to the power house, which is deserving of publication for the deserving little heroine. Miss Vernie Woodward, who has been on the trail over a year, packing freight on her back, and managing five pack-horses which she had bought with her earnings, was one of the first to reach the scene from Sheep Camp. She came to the power house - to aid and comfort the wounded, and discovered in the row of dead the body of Mr. Joppe, whom she had known for a long time, and to whom she was very much attached. When she recognized him her grief was unbounded. She cried and begged for him to come back to life and look at her. She unfastened his shirt, and in frenzied grief began to rub him. She worked on him as only a true woman will - moving his arms this way and that; pressing his chest and breathing into his lungs until three o'clock in the morning. She was then rewarded by having him open his eyes and speaking her name, 'Vernie'. Everybody shed tears of rejoicing."

"The little heroine and hero were taken at once to Sheep Camp. Mr. Joppe is out of danger and Miss Woodward is the heroine of the hour."

Mr. P. Young, who was one of the first to arrive on the spot, and who extricated Mr. Mueller, says that in fifteen minutes after the slide occurred there were 1,500 men on the spot, working frenziedly to extricate the sufferers. Some of them were buried 30 feet deep.



Log church built at Lake Bennett in 1898.

He says that those people were instantly killed by concussion - the mass of wet snow that came down being almost beyond comprehension. It came down the steep mountain side 3,000 feet and covered ten acres. It came with such force it solidified at once almost like ice. Mr. Young thinks there are many more under the mass of snow, but does not think they can be recovered till the summer thaw.

The Chilcoot Tramway people in every way possible, spared no expense in trying to rescue the victims, and will keep a force of men at work until they are satisfied the last man is out.

Many of the bodies were taken to Dyea and sent to friends. Others were buried in the cemetery at Dyea.

The trail, which had been closed for the time, was opened again yesterday for traffic, and packing was resumed over the summit.

EXCERPTS FROM THE "DYEAL TRAIL"

April 9th., 1898

Editor Dyea Trail: The following observations on Sheep Camp affairs are not copyrighted, and the man who wrote them went to Skaguay and died. They may therefore be of use to your publication.

1. The man from Mexico with three legs and five arms, has made his mark as the best driver on the trail.

2. A party from Chicago measured the trail to the Summit yesterday. It is two miles up and sixty yards down.

3. A man was seen to help another in trouble on the hill above Stone House. He was at once lynched.

4. Notwithstanding this example, a good-natured man was discovered doing the same thing the next day. He is now in the county jail.

5. A man with necktie passed up the trail before daylight this morning. He is now lost in the woods near Lake Linderman.

Continued on page 33

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The Wooing of "Deer Eyes"

Continued from page 19

mornin' an' that the Medicine Man had said that he'd been home all night, an' that the spook had gone to Longlegs without even a courtesy call on him. I asked if'n it wouldn't be possible that for the Medicine Man to lie, but Longlegs didn't think so. I was, he pointed out, a white man, an' wouldn't savvy these things. So I promised not to bother him, but I said, 'I'm your friend an' that danged crook ain't got yuh yet.'



"On the third night after Longlegs's visit I snuk outa camp after dark an' took up my position by his cabin, hid in the bush. I knew for sition by his cabin, hid in the bush. I knew for certain there'd be a human visitor come 'cause there was no noise 'makin' itself' an' without that no spooks could show up. An' sure enough, 'bout midnight I heard a skulkin' movement in the woods. I knew there was a prospective murderer lurkin' there, but I didn't aim to act till he tried to murder. I figured he'd go in the door an' stab Longlegs an' then drag his body out an' bury it someplace. He could've got away with that right easy, 'cause the fool Injuns would think that the spook just packed Longlegs off bodily, an' they wouldn't dare investigate for fear of makin' the spook mad at them. So the Medicine Man would then collect Deer Eyes an' untold bounties an' gifts, 'cause the rest of them would fear him more than ever."

"But that danged crook was more artful than I'd thought, an' he wasn't goin' to do it the easy way. I could see him riggin' somethin' white in the limbs of a tree at the edge of the clearin' directly facin' Longlegs's window. I'd wondered since he didn't go right in an' stab him, how he intended killin' him. He wouldn't dare fire a shot, 'cause that'd be a dead givaway that not even the stupid Injuns would be fooled by. An' it wasn't likely that Longlegs would be asleep on the night he was to be killed by the spook. I soon learned."

"After riggin' the white to suit him, the Medicine Man lit a short candle. He shielded the light till he'd placed it where he wanted it. It wasn't till he was finished that I could see what he'd been doing. An' when I did see it, believe you me it was a sight calculated to make a fellow stay indoors at nights. He'd rigged up human bones an' a human skull on the limbs of the tree in such a way that you couldn't see they was rigged. Then he'd put the candle, inside the skull. It sure made a horrible lookin' ghost. It looked like it was standin' just inside the clearin' with hellish lights shinin' from its eyes, nose an' mouth, an' the light also showed up the ribs an' bony arms extended towards

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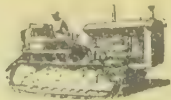
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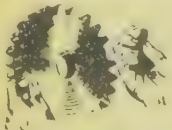
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MEDICINE MAN

Longlegs's cabin as if to receive him in an embrace him."

"After gettin' his riggin' set, the Medicine Man dropped to one side on the ground an' let out some awful wails an' moanin's. I could also hear a few Injun words sayin' 'I come for you,' Durin' all this commotion I'd slipped right up behind the tree the ghost was rigged to. I was kinda scared that Longlegs might take a shot at the ghost, but it was a big tree an' I guess I was safe enough."

"By this time the Medicine Man had slipped up to the wall o' the cabin an' had just lifted the window pane from the cabin. He'd done it so slick I knew he'd loosened the window pane before at some time, probably the night before. Then he crouched down an' put a small tube to his lips an' waited. I figured at once that there was a poisoned arrow or dart in the tube. His plan was to wait till he could see Longlegs lookin' horrified out the window at the flamin' ghost, plant the dart tipped with deadly poison right in his throat so's he wouldn't be a'cryin' out in his death struggles. He'd then go in an' take his arrow, replace the window pane, remove his ghost, an' tell everyone he'd been home all night. The Injuns would just think that Longlegs's dead pard had come an' packed

off his ghost an' that'd be all there was to it."

"An' he danged near made it. I hadn't figured on such an elaborate trap. Even as I looked I saw the faint reflection of the candlelight on Longlegs's face as he stuck his head through the window yellin' like a maniac an' starin' with bulgin' eyes at the grinnin' skull. The Medicine Man already had his tube pointed - all he had to do was blow. Yoy see, bein' out in the dark all this time I could see quite well."

"I had to be quick if'n I was to save Longlegs, so I grabbed the skull an' let go - aimin' at the Medicine Man. A flamin' glarin' skull shot in an arc towards the cabin. Yoy see, the candle stayed lit, bein' protected inside the skull from bein' blown out - just like one of them bugs you make out of jam tins. When Longlegs saw the thing comin' he thought it was the spook at last comin' for him, for he let out a screech an' I heard a thud as he fell over. I thought I'd been too late; that the Medicine Man had blown the dart, an' I was too busy with the Medicine Man to find out. The skull had lit with a hollow thud right on his bean, an' as he turned to find out what was wrong, I heaved a rock. It lit with a good old-fashioned 'bonk', an' he fell wigglin' an gruntin'."

"Longlegs had just plain fainted, so I found out when I went in the cabin. After revivin' him by dousin' him with a bucket of water, he figured at first at first that he was in the spirit world an' began moanin' an' groanin', but I snapped him out of it an' took him outside an' showed him the Medicine Man lookin' a mite flattened out in the middle, also the skeleton. After that he wasn't scared no more."

"Next mornin' when Longlegs strutted into the village lookin' not the least afraid o' man, beast or spook, the rest o' the Injuns was plumb flabbergasted, an' Deer Eyes, seein' as how he was still alive despite the Medicine Man's prediction, started shinin' up to him again. Actin' on my instructions Longlegs said he'd spoke to the spook o' his pard, an' the spook said that seein' as how Longlegs wanted to team up with Deer Eyes an' raise more trappers an' such, he was no longer mad an' would live in the spook world in happiness bein' as how he was in favor of such a union. Deer Eyes an' her whole family were in favour of it too, an' so was the whole tribe."

"Just about the time Deer Eyes an' Longlegs was getting teamed up Injun style, one of them let out a whoop an' pointed to where the Medicine Man was staggerin' into the village lookin' green around the gills. A bunch of Injun kids was followin' him an' laughin' like heck an' pointin' at him. Seems they'd found him stretched out under the skeleton where we'd left him, an'

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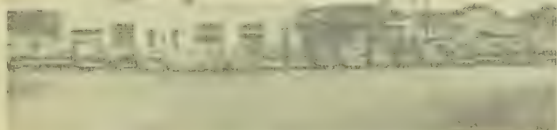
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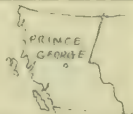
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'...so I grabbed the skull and let go,
aimin' at the Medicine Man....'

when they'd told the grown-ups about it the whole village tramped out to have a look see, 'cause the Medicine Man had bin too sick to move it. From then on he was the laughin, stock o' the village, an' at my suggestion the Injuns, who can't get along without a Medicine Man, gave the job to Longlegs, which made Deer Eyes very proud of him."

"I made Longlegs swear to never tell the part I took in that night's proceedin's, bein' as how I didn't want to wake up one morning with a poisoned dart in my own neck. I guess the dirty crook of a Medicine Man never did figure out what happened that night, 'cause just before I left, an' after Longlegs had been made the new Medicine Man, Longlegs came to me an' said that the old Medicine Man had come to him an' asked him to please get in touch with Longlegs old pard an beg his forgiveness for tellin' all the lies in his name, an' Longlegs had said he would."

"An' there you have it," concluded the old prospector, as he sat staring into the flames of the campfire. He waved his pipe at us. "Yuh see," he elucidated, "there was no noise makin' itself, an' so no ghosts, just a dirty plot by that crooked Medicine Man.....why, he was the DANGDEST liar I ever heard....."

The sublimest song to be heard on earth is the
lisp of the human soul on the lips of children.

- Victor Hugo

There is no more mistaken path to happiness
than worldliness, revelry, high life.

- Schopenhauer.

Excerpts, continued-

STICKEEN RAILROAD STOPPED

The MacKenzie-Mann project to build a railroad on the Stickeen route, has come to a sudden stop. By a vote of 52 to 14, the Dominion Parliament has vetoed the land grab. For the present at least, a Canadian railway, over an all-Canadian route, looks like a very unlikely proposition. As the Dyea Trail has often predicted, Dyea will get the first railroad to the fields.

THE HUMOUR OF IT

A Wagon Road Advertisement Through Which The Skaguay scheme of catching the poor Klondyker - that is to say, the Brackett wagon road, is being extensively advertised in Puget Sound papers to try to counteract the grand rush for the Dyea Trail - the only trail over which it is possible to go without spending a fortune and wasting a lifetime. The Humbert Yukon Navigation Company is doing the advertising now. It is the farcical affair which made itself the laughing stock of the country and wasted many thousands of dollars by attempting to take an expedition over the Dalton trail early last winter. Failing there, what was left of the wreck was taken to Skaguay, and there it is now, exploiting the Brackett kite, and advertising how it can send freight over the great "Brackett wagon-road" from Skaguay to Lake Bennett in five days. To those who know the truth it is ridiculous.

There are over two teams employed in the freighting business in Dyea.

By order of Colonel Anderson, the soldiers are gathering "shell men" and others who make a practise of fleecing the unwary. On Thursday were brought before the judge and fined.

We refrain from commenting on the war situation for fear that our comments might cause the President to do something desperate.

There is a movement on foot to induce Uncle Sam to buy the Panama Canal. It is now about half completed, and from conservative estimates will cost about one hundred and fifty million dollars to complete.

Nobody froze to death, and nobody died of scurvy in the Klondyke country last winter.

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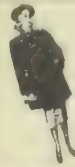
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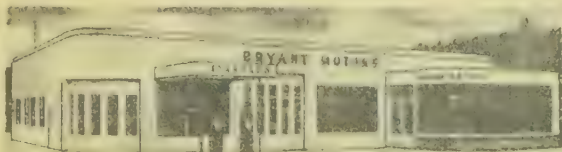
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There are fully a thousand "sure thing" men enroute to Dawson City. About 90 percent of them will be hauling a sled for a living before the season is out. In Dawson it must be "square" and the square sport takes the "sure thing." man's money easier than he himself takes it from the hayseed.

Willis McKinnis traded a claim on Dominion Creek for a half case of Rye Whiskey. The claim has already been sold for twenty thousand dollars and could not now be bought for double that amount.

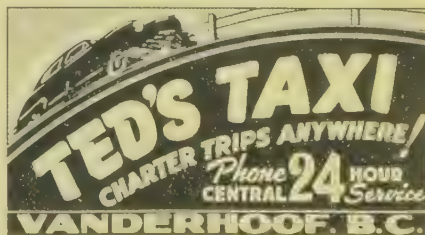
Some energetic farmer could make a fortune raising potatoes here. They are now selling from \$1.00 to \$2.00 per pound.

George Carmack, the discoverer of Bonanza, is getting as high as \$218 to the pan on his No. 1 claim above Discovery.

Pat Galvin swooped down on Dawson last month like a whirlwind and cornered all the waterfront; bought something like a hundred thousand dollars worth of real estate, bonded several of the best mines on Eldorado and Bonanza, established half a dozen stores and trading posts and made a million or two of honest dollars while the old established trading companies were studying how to rob the miners out of a few ounces.



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Half a century as a servant of the Crown - the longest service of any Customs Officer in Canada - this is the service of Jarvis H. McLeod, who is retiring from the position of Collector of Customs at Prince Rupert, British Columbia.

For fifty years Mr. McLeod has performed the exacting and responsible duties of customs officer with unflinching fidelity. During his long and interesting career in the north country he has witnessed the growth and development of Western Canada beginning in the memorable days of '98.

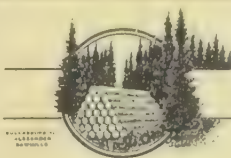
Jarvis Harely McLeod was born in Southampton, Bruce County, Ontario, on August 30, 1883. His parents were Captain John C. and Elizabeth Ann McLeod, both being members of the first pioneer families of Bruce County. He was named after Sheriff Jarvis, the first sheriff of York (Toronto) and identified with a family some of whom have long been prominent in Toronto affairs.

Mr. McLeod joined the customs service at Skaguay, Alaska, September 12th, 1899. He had charge of men and supplies at Skaguay for J.B. Charleson, when he built the Yukon Telegraph Line from Bennett to Dawson. He also worked with M.J. Heney of Ottawa, head contractor during the construction of the White Pass and Yukon Railway. He was also stationed at Log Cabin, British Columbia, then at Forty Mile, Yukon Territory, and then at Dawson, Y.T. It was from Dawson that he was transferred to Prince Rupert, B.C. arriving in this city October 20th, 1909. He watched the steel and supplies being brought in for the

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construction of the railway and witnessed the arrival of the first train into Prince Rupert. He has served as Collector of Customs at the Port of Prince Rupert since May 1913.

He received Their Majesties' Silver Jubilee medal after thirty years with the Crown and on July 1, 1946 he was honored with the decoration M.B.E. for long and meritorious service in the Customs Service. It is exceptionally note-worthy that in the half-century of Mr. McLeod's duties related to the Customs, there were no fewer than five changes in the occupancy of the British Throne. He was customs officer when Victoria reigned, and in the reign of Edward Seventh, George Fifth, Edward Eighth and George Sixth.

He was married in Dawson on May 23, 1909, to Jean Cavanaugh, and this by the way is the year of the Fortieth anniversary of the ceremony. There is a family of nine.

Mr. McLeod retired from active work on February 14th. and for the next six months will be on leave of absence after which, his retirement becomes official and permanent.

He is at present visiting a daughter in Nelson, B.C. and plans spending the next few months with family members in other parts of the province. Mr. McLeod, however, does not intend to live away from Northern British Columbia and the scenes he has long been familiar with. But he did feel that he must get away at the start, as force of habit of years would turn his steps automatically to the Federal Building and the Customs office there.

Speak without emphasizing your words. Leave other people to discover what you have said; and as their minds are slow, you can make your escape in time. - Schopenhauer

Pride is pleasure arising from man's thinking too highly of himself. - Spinoza.



'The skipper want's to know can ya' fill his cigarette lighter?'

CANADA PUFFS 8 BILLION CIGARETTES

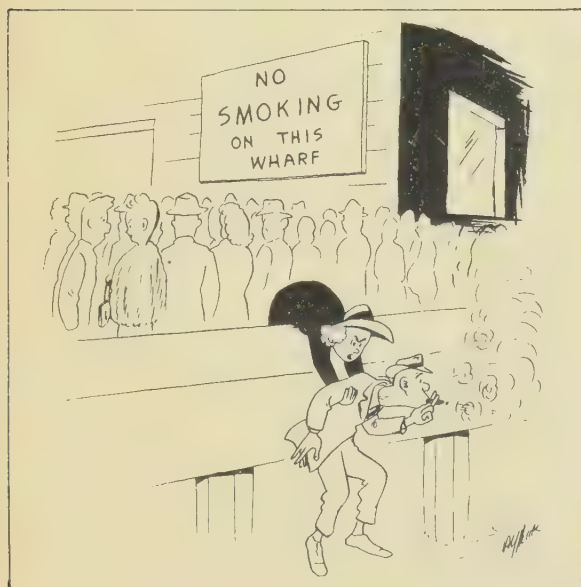
Continued from page 9

producer. The big industry employs thousands of workers growing, processing and packing the crop.

"Virginia" applies to the flue-cured leaf produced in many parts of the world and not, as commonly thought, that grown in the State of Virginia in the U.S.S. Virginia leaf grown in Ontario composes a large part of the cigarettes and tobacco sold in Canada.



'Don't tell me you've finally sworn off tobacco.'



'For pity sakes! Hurry up and finish it!'

It is best of course, to know useless things,
than to know nothing. - Seneca.

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Edward's, produced over \$3,000 in a week. These were the best, and their returns were much above average.

PEACE RIVER, STICKEEN TERRITORIES, and SHUSWAP

Even Cariboo failed to write "finis" on the mining advance. The search reached into the Peace River region, where in 1861 the bar diggings were found. Such diggings are the ideal of the individual miner, as no capital is required. The pioneers in this region, Edward Carey and W. Cust, brought to Fort McLeod, in the fall of 1861, one thousand ounces of gold, and reported having washed out in one day seventy-five ounces apiece. In 1862 a rush, small as compared to the Fraser and Cariboo rushes, took place. This territory was reached by ascending the Fraser to Fort George, thence up the Nechako and Stuart Rivers to Stuart Lake, thence across Stuart Lake ninety miles and across a portage to the Finlay branch of the Peace. The Fort St. James Journal records on July 10th. 1862, the arrival of a party of six miners enroute to that region. Other parties followed. The mere inaccessibility of the locality was a lure in itself. The opinion gradually gained ground that these northern mines were the long looked for El Dorado. The mystery surrounding the movements of these adventurers, who, disappearing into the wilds, would suddenly reappear for provisions and as suddenly vanish, was in the view of many a sure sign of a rich strike. In October 1862, it was reported that the diggings on the Peace River were paying \$100 a day to the man with rockers. A party of five were reported to have made a half an ounce a day to the man during 1863 on every bar down to the junction of the Finlay with the Peace River.

In the examination of the northern rivers, the Stikine was not overlooked. During 1861 a miner named Choquette, about a hundred miles from its mouth, found good bar diggings, realizing with a very primitive rocker, \$51.50 in five days. He observed, as had been noticed on the Fraser, that the coarseness of the gold increased with the ascent. Indians who were prospecting with him, frequently made \$9 per day each.



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Jack o' Clubs Lake - with the comparatively new mining town of Wells on the left, and the Cariboo Gold Quartz Mine on the right.

These discoveries bore fruit in 1862, when this new mining region, being beyond the boundaries of British Columbia, was formed into the Stickeen Territories by an Order-In Council dated July 19, 1862. Its boundaries were: on the west and southwest, the frontier of Russian America - the Alaska of today; on the south and southeast, the colony of British Columbia; on the east the one hundred and twenty-fifth meridian of west longitude; and on the north the sixty-second parallel of north latitude. The Governor of British Columbia was named Administrator of Stickeen Territories, with the power to appoint and suspend from office Judges, Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, and other necessary officers, to exercise the royal clemency, remit fines and forfeitures, to make regulations regarding the use and occupation of lands, and to fix the terms under which gold, silver, and other minerals might be sought and removed. The law of England, as existing on January 1, 1862, so far as not from local circumstances inapplicable, was declared in force; the Supreme Court of British Columbia was given jurisdiction in civil and criminal matters arising in the new territory; the Justices of the Peace were authorized to deal with civil matters up to \$250, and with criminal matters where the punishment or fine did not exceed two months imprisonment or \$250.

The Stickeen Territories, as separate from the Colony of British Columbia, had but a short existence. In July, 1863, an act was passed by the Imperial Parliament whereby the greater part of Stickeen was included within the boundaries of the colony. The new limits of British Columbia were: on the south the frontier of the United States of America; on the west the Pacific Ocean and Russian America; on the north the sixtieth parallel of north latitude; on the east the Rocky Mountains and the one hundred

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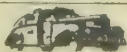
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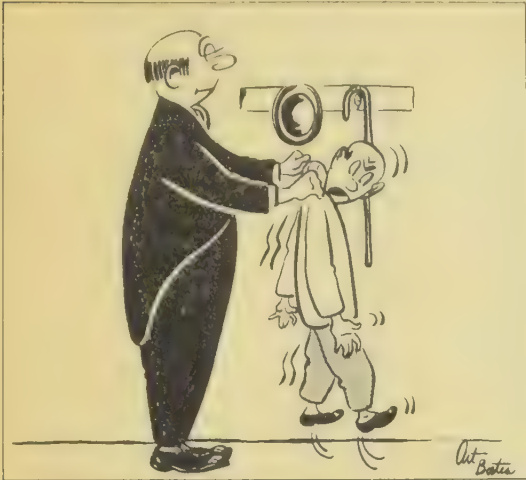
The Peace River Canyon - where it cuts through the Rocky Mountains near Hudson Hope.

and twentieth meridian of west longitude, including Queen Charlotte Islands and all other islands, except Vancouver Island and those adjacent thereto.

Late in 1863 gold was discovered in the vicinity of Shuswap Lake, by William Peon. In two weeks, he and his partner took out \$300. and two Indians obtained \$50 in two days. The gold was small and scaly, but the diggings were shallow. So important did the discovery seem that Mr. H.M. Ball, the assistant Gold Commissioner at Lytton, set out in October to examine the new mining region. He reported that it was located two hundred miles from Lytton on the left bank of the Spallumcheen River. In his opinion, when the claims were properly opened they would yield from \$12 to \$16 per day, for he was informed by Narcisse, an intelligent Indian, that he had made \$12 a day with a rocker. Though it was late in the fall, miners were flocking to the new diggings. In December, the Shuswap mines, as the locality was called, were only yielding from \$5 to \$14 a day. Benjamin McDonald and Charles Kimble applied for a charter to build two bridges on the trail and to collect tolls on the traffic. The right was granted, but they took little by the

grant, as the Shuswap region soon ceased to attract attention, and was hidden from view by the Kootenay, towards which the tide of fickle adventurers now flowed.

Next Issue:-
THE ROADS AND TRAILS TO CARIBOO



'All right, all right! I'm in it...'

A LAUGH or TWO

¶ "This is the Duke of Woopingham's estate," said the guide from Cook's, and added sotto voice, "One of our great Landed Proprietors, ya'know."

A young lady from Newark expressed sudden interest. "Who landed him?" she inquired.

+++++

¶ Miss Fraser was surprised to get a telephone call at her home from the teller at her bank. "I'm sorry to tell you," said the teller, "that as of February 1st. your account is over-drawn by more than \$200."

"How much did I have in your bank on January 1st?" countered Miss Fraser.

"\$600," said the teller.

"And how much was there on December 1st?"

"Over \$1,000," the teller replied.



"Then why do you call me in February?" she asked triumphantly. "Did I call YOU in January or December?"

+++++

¶ A famous author roughing it in Cariboo (with four guides) met a family of natives, and said condescendingly, "You people here in the woods are certainly lost to civilization, aren't you?"

"Bein' lost ain't nothin', was the reply. "It's bein' found that's got us worried."

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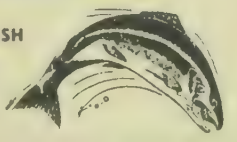
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A FAMED PORTAGE - continued from page 8

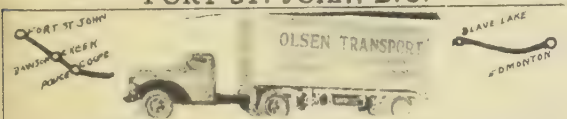
opposite side of the portage place two other small streams tumble down from the heights and glide into the Pacific Lake they were approaching. MacKenzie's party was now over the divide and going with the stream but was hindered by an immense amount of lodged driftwood in the water, and the channel blocked by large trees that had fallen across it. Much time and fatigue was spent in removing these obstacles by all hands and little progress was made. Below these another very small lake was crossed, and he states that at the outlet in the stream there was barely enough water over the gravel bars to float the canoe. This stream leading to the Pacific waters is now shown on the Provincial Government maps as the "James Creek". MacKenzie named it, quite rightly too, I can assure you, as the "Bad River." This is the proper name and the persons responsible for the placing of names, and the changing of existing names of features on the maps of British Columbia, should not have changed the name given by the early explorer. It is still known by persons interested, and locally, as the Bad River, and probably always will be. The explorer's name for it should, in my opinion, be restored at the next issue of maps showing this feature.

The diary for June 12th. states further:-
 "Five in the afternoon we unloaded and carried to a small round lake. After crossing this lake we entered again on the river (Bad or James.) This soon ran with great rapidity over a bed of flat stones. At 6.30 P.M. we camped. Weather cloudy and raw, and as we had been in the water frequently which was cold as ice we were numbed with cold. Some of the people who had kept the shore in order to lighten the canoe had great difficulty in reaching the camp owing to the rough country. Dark when they arrived." MacKenzie now sent two men down the river to report and they brought back, he states a fearful tale of rapid currents, fallen trees and boiling water against large stones, the guide now wanted to return, he had had enough.

The Bad River from about this point becomes very rapid and exceedingly dangerous. At one spot on my own voyage down this river years ago now, we came to a spot that looked impassable, but pass we must, for to turn back with the canoe was out of the question, to start on foot poorly equipped, overland, in this densely grown country, carved up and broken by mountain ranges and swift streams would be to stand a good chance of leaving our bones to be howled over by the wolves. Here the river debauched from between rocky walls forming almost a



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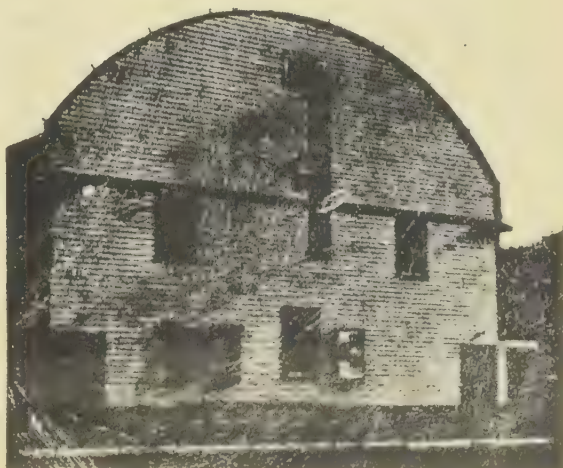
waterfall, and, squarely in the centre of the roaring water stands a large jagged rock around which the water boils and swirls with stupendous force. The situation forbade any portaging of our heavy dugout canoe, so we took the chance of sending it down unmanned, with lines tied bow and stern but floating free with floats of short pieces of wood tied to each rope's end. One of us stationed himself at the pool below the cataract, while the other cast the canoe loose to the mercy of the stream. It safely navigated the foaming torrent to one side of the huge rock and by wading breast deep in the ice cold water of the pool below we were able to grasp the wooden floats and regain possession of our craft. Needless to state we took the precaution of removing certain light essentials before putting the canoe over the cataract, such as rifles, matches, compass and so on.

This is no doubt the spot where MacKenzie's canoe just about came to grief as he described further in his diary. Quote:- "June 13th. Early this morning the men began to cut a road (trail) It was my intention to walk overland with some of the people, but the boatmen requested me to embark with them, declaring if they perished I should perish with them. We soon struck and the current was so strong as to drive the canoe sideways down the river and break her by the first bar. I at once jumped into the water and the men followed. We floated into deeper water and had to re-embark with great speed. We now drove against a rock which shattered the stern of the canoe as that the steersman could no longer keep his place. The wreck becoming flat on the water we all jumped out. We floated down the swift current in this manner several hundred yards till we arrived in a small eddy where we got control again. The Indians on shore when they saw our deplorable situation instead of making the least effort to help us,

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sat down and gave vent to tears. I was benumbed by the coldness of the water. Our loss was considerable and important for it consisted of all our bullets. The powder was not damaged and my instruments had escaped damage. My people now hoped this would put an end to our voyage as we were now without a canoe or bullets. I made no reply till they had a hearty meal and were warm, and had rum served them enough to raise their spirits.....They were then informed that we continue."

They still had a great number of dangerous places in this tumbling mountain river to navigate, so the following day under MacKenzie's leadership, their canoe, though it looked a hopeless wreck, was repaired and made river-worthy. Some of the light bird shot had been saved, so these were melted down to form bullets for use against big game and protection if necessary. The leader mentions one more narrow escape this day. Their powder had become slightly damp though not damaged as he mentions, so it had been spread out on blankets to dry, when one of his men with a fully lighted pipe in mouth walked across the powder puffing at his pipe heartily. As MacKenzie says: - "It was God's mercy we were not all blown sky-high."

After surmounting all these dangers and difficulties and with no clear idea what still lay ahead of him, or for that matter, it was anybody's guess where the water even ran that they were floating with, the great pathfinder says simply..... "We continue down the river."

He and his party, as we now know, reached the present Fraser River paddled down, passed the site of the present city of Prince George, passed the present town of Quesnel and so made their way overland to the salt water of the Pacific. Then with his same crew almost in a state of mutiny, he retraced his steps all the long, hard way back to Montreal, this time up the Bad River, not down with the current as before.

These incidents in our Canadian history played so adjacent to our settlements and home in this part of British Columbia are too little known. It is well that we bring to the attention of fellow Canadians the hardships endured, and the dangers encountered and overcome by brave men who blazed the trails in the wilds of British Columbia. It was seldom that they looked to personal gain, or selfish honors from govern-



ments. On the whole they were simple, modest men, but the class of men that the poet Kipling was thinking of when he penned:-
 "Something hidden, go and find it;
 Go and look behind the ranges -
 Something lost behind the ranges;
 Lost and waiting for you - go!"

Such is the story of one incident in a voyage that took place in Northern British Columbia many years ago.

Editorial - continued from page 2

surveys for establishing one of the continent's largest hydro-electric plants and a half billion dollar aluminum industry; the start of negotiations for building a railroad to Alaska -

1959 could see the completion of all the above projects, and more - new pulp mills, the construction and paving of the highway from Prince Rupert to Edmonton, and from Ashcroft to Peace River, the extensive development of coal, clay, diatomite deposits, the construction of smelters to handle our base metals and new lateral roads through to the coast opening up new valleys for settlement and scores of other developments all contributing toward a more abundant life.....

We would like to end with the prophecy that this will all come to pass in the next ten years. but unfortunately, this land, first gazed upon hopefully by white men 158 years ago, is but a tiny spot on the world map, appreciated at long last, but only for its resources and strategic significance in a world overflowing with greed and hatred, and bereft of reason.....

1959 could also see the end of World War 3, and along with it, through the use of atomic bombs and bacterial warfare, the end of civilization as we know it today.

The scales are delicately balanced. Soon it shall be known what reward man's cumulative effort down through the ages has earned for him - whether the sum total of man's existence on earth shows a preponderance of good or evil.A dip to one side - inconceivable destruction and desolation; a dip to the other - an opportunity towards a more abundant life and "peace on earth towards all men."

If ever the peoples of this world needed a star to guide them it is now.

Peoples and governments have never learned anything from history, or acted on principles deduced from it.

- Hegel, in "Philosophy on History."

Man is certainly stark mad; he cannot make a worm, yet he will be making gods by the dozens.

-Michel De Montaigne.

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CHRISTMAS TREES - continued from page 5

and they form an especially good source of reproduction without replanting when the stump diameter is four inches or more. Naturally, only the best of a multiplicity of sprouts should be retained. Limb trees which are another excellent means of reproduction with replanting are formed by the branches immediately below the cut made when the original tree is harvested. When the leader of the tree is removed, the laterals turn upwards and take its place. The cultivation of limb trees reduces the rotation period and consequently increases the yield per acre of the plantation.

All in all, Christmas Tree production is becoming an important and skilled part of the Forest Industry. There may be some who deplore the commercialization of a Holy symbol and, again, those who deplore the effects on the forests. To the latter we say that the forest has infinitely worse enemies than the Christmas Tree farmer; such enemies as fire and disease. Further, as has been pointed out, the Christmas Tree industry, under proper care and management, does not need to interfere with the lumber industry at any point. To the former there is offered for consideration the following argument from "The Christmas Tree Industry in Canada" by J.R. Dickson:—

"The Christmas Tree is a symbol of all that is best in our spiritual natures. We may, therefore, welcome its ever-increasing use, cherish the message of good-will that it brings and leave to the good sense and enlightened self-interest of our people the future guidance of the Christmas Tree industry along sound and proper lines."

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AN EXCELLENT LIMB TREE - Note that the main stem has been removed; the stump shows in front of the piece of paper.
(Photo: Courtesy B.C. Forest Service)

By way of conclusion, here are a very few terribly practical hints about the preservation of our particular Christmas Tree. Firstly, it is unwise to cut Christmas Trees when the temperature is below 20 degrees F. There is too great a danger of lateral breakages. Secondly, if the Christmas Tree arrives too early, keep it outside with the butt touching the ground. Within limits, there is no harm in obtaining the tree early because the retention of the needles differs very little in trees cut as early as November or trees lopped hastily off on Christmas Eve. Thirdly, while it is entirely pleasant to keep the home fires burning at Christmas, it is not necessary to burn the home down and your Christmas Tree can be flame-proofed quite easily. Stand it in a mixture of water and either ammonium sulphate or calcium chloride. The chemical should be at the rate of one quarter the weight of the tree and dissolved in water at a temperature of from 55 to 65 degrees. A pound of chemical to a pint and a half of water makes a dandy mixture.

And so we finish. But not without the promise that, next month, something shall be written about the "Pine Trees" and, of course, not without wishing everyone, old or young, male or female, in sickness or in health -
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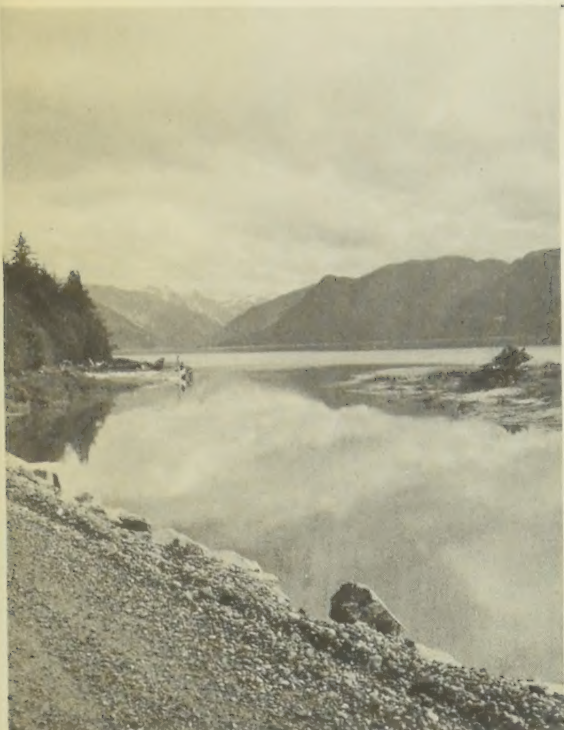
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Skeena River near Skeena Siding on the road to Prince Rupert, B.C.

photo, courtesy B.C. Gov't. Travel Bureau

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PERSONS EMPLOYED—1948

Agriculture	33,000
Mining	16,000
Forestry	41,000
Manufacturing	100,000
Fishing	22,000
Miscellaneous	211,000
TOTAL	423,000

VALUE OF PRODUCTION—1948

Forestry	\$363,786,000
Mining	\$152,524,752
Agriculture	\$141,000,000
Fishing	\$ 58,600,000
Manufacturing	\$850,000,000
TOTAL	\$1,565,910,752

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MANUFACTURING INVESTMENTS

1909	\$ 50,000,000
1919	\$220,000,000
1929	\$311,806,456
1939	\$274,969,502
1948	\$525,000,000

EXTERNAL TRADE—1948

Exports	\$371,480,456
Imports	\$199,949,221

INDUSTRIAL PAYROLLS—1948

Agriculture	\$ 30,000,000
Mining	\$ 35,000,000
Forestry	\$ 80,000,000
Fishing	\$ 40,000,000
Manufacturing	\$190,000,000
Miscellaneous	\$275,000,000
TOTAL	\$650,000,000

MISCELLANEOUS STATISTICS

1948

Retail Sales	\$731,000,000
Building Permits	\$ 85,000,000
Consumption of Electric Power, KWH	3,436,778,000
Railway Freight Loaded, Tons	10,325,407

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